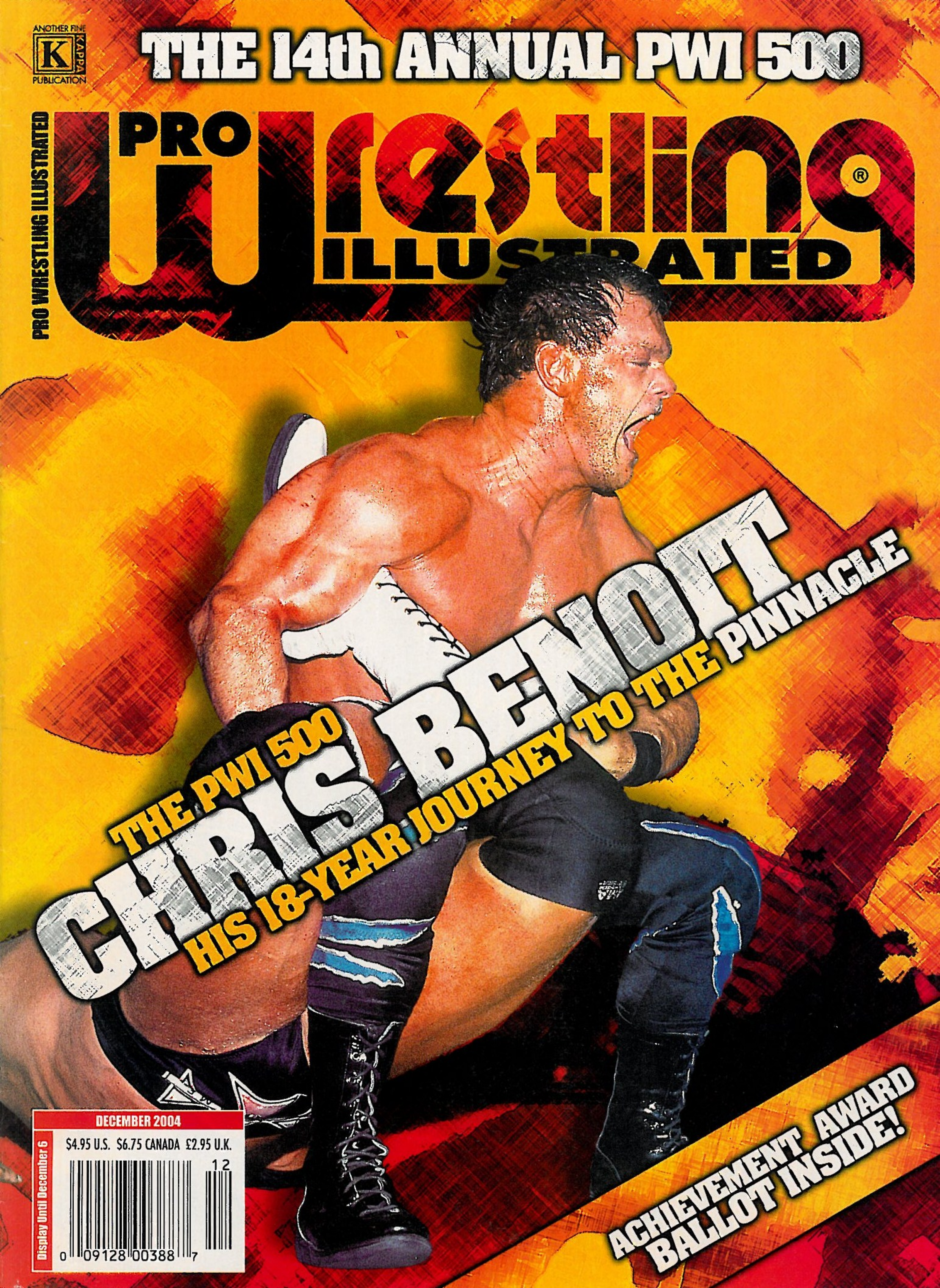


# THE 14th ANNUAL PWI 500

PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED

# PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED® ILLUSTRATED

A full-page illustration of Chris Benoit in a dynamic wrestling pose, shirtless and wearing his signature black and blue gear with white stripes. He is shown from the waist up, leaning forward with his mouth open in a shout or yell. The background is a vibrant, abstract mix of yellow, orange, and red, suggesting a fiery or energetic atmosphere.

**THE PWI 500**  
**CHRIS BENNETT**  
**HIS 18-YEAR JOURNEY TO THE PINNACLE**

DECEMBER 2004

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**ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
BALLOT INSIDE!**



91	Abismo Negro	483	Brandon P	310	D-Ray 3000	47	Shinya Hashimoto	411	Jacob Ladder	144	Negro Casas	34	Samoa Joe	253	Mike Sullivan
56	Abyss	455	Don Brodie	37	Buh Buh Ray Dudley	265	Cody Hawk	254	Lamont	298	Vance Nevada	390	Fred Sampson	157	Super Delfin
316	Afa Jr.	61	D-Lo Brown	43	D-Von Dudley	118	Kaz Hayashi	46	Latin Lover	187	New Jack	430	Diablo Santiago	370	Super Hentai
102	Perro Aguayo Jr.	393	Eddie Brown	51	Spike Dudley	329	Johnny Heartbreaker	15	John Bradshaw Layfield	71	Nicho El Millonaro	26	Bob Sapp	235	Judo Suwa
287	Aaron Aguilera	101	Monty Brown	108	Rene Dupree	107	Heat	487	Quinten Lee	29	Mr. Niebla	72	Kensuke Sasaki	110	Kenzo Suzuki
140	Akio	299	Slyk Wagner Brown	128	Sonjay Dutt	184	Heavy Metal	274	Joe E. Legend	211	Osamu Nishimura	319	Yoshihito Sasaki	477	Dave Swift
125	Jun Akiyama	443	The Bruiser	313	Tyson Dux	150	John Heidenreich	453	Boyce Legrand	160	Johnny Nitro	191	Great Sasuke	123	Johnny Swinger
484	Terry Alan	368	Buff-E	336	Rob Eckos	158	Hotstuff Hernandez	330	Lash LeRoux	75	Jamie Noble	288	Kohel Sato	398	Matt Sydal
176	Brent Albright	155	Colt Cabana	59	Edge	340	Chris Hero	53	Jushin Liger	280	Jacey North	396	Scott Savage	375	T. Rantula
188	Alibrije	85	Garrison Cade	169	Electro Shock	203	Ikuto Hidaka	497	J.T. Lightning	186	Kevin Northcutt	475	Scab	42	Tajiri
381	Nikita Allanov	133	Chris Cage	450	Robbie Ellis	14	El Hijo Del Santo	277	H.C. Loc	152	Nova	278	Otto Schwanz	132	Yoshihiro Takayama
312	Altar Boy Luke	331	Chris Candido	479	Enigma	54	Hardcore Holly	82	Paul London	111	Nunzio	270	Scorpio	100	Masato Tanaka
165	Amazing Red	354	Arik Cannon	314	Jorge Estrada	192	Homicide	216	Lex Lovett	121	Octagon	124	Scotty Too Hotty	297	Tank
77	American Dragon	407	Frankie Capone	21	Eugene	205	Tom Howard	116	Low-Ki	408	C.J. O'Doyle	267	Todd Sexton	289	Taru
74	C.W. Anderson	170	Matt Cappotelli	427	Bob Evans	58	Hurricane	113	Jerry Lynn	93	Naoya Ogawa	494	Shane Shadows	279	Akira Taue
190	Scout Andrews	285	Rico Casanova	214	Jack Evans	272	Iceberg	300	Scotty Mac	244	Onyx	361	Seth Shai	356	Mike Taylor
36	Kurt Angle	229	Sean Casey	269	Fast Eddie	242	Danny Inferno	159	Rodney Mack	397	Mr. Ooh La La	27	Michael Shane	470	Tejas
225	Austin Aries	7	John Cena	200	Felino	255	Dean Jablonski	315	Steve Mack	5	Randy Orton	207	Mike Shane	419	Mikey Tenderfoot
261	Alex Arion	120	Chavo Classic	442	Flex Fenom	467	Shadow Jackson	339	Steve Madison	350	Glen Osbourne	208	Todd Shane	90	Genichiro Tenryu
337	Mark Ash	382	Cheetah Master	325	Adam Firestorm	268	Jimmy Jacobs	204	Dan Maff	87	Shinjiro Otani	151	Shark Boy	11	Hiro Yoshi Tenzan
97	Atlantis	474	Darin Childs	250	Billy Fives	245	Jado	444	Magic	394	Johnny Ova	276	Alex Shelley	104	Test
417	Eddie Atlas	486	Lil' Cholo	30	Ric Flair	179	Jamal	338	Quinn Magnum	114	Chuck Palumbo	232	Junsei Shinzaki	385	Antonio Thomas
105	A-Train	103	Masahiro Chono	454	Mozart Fontaine	147	B.G. James	136	Mark Magnus	263	Frank Parker	68	Shocker	403	Sal Thomaselli
286	Azrael	258	Riki Choshu	489	Forsaken	377	Japanese Pool Boy	358	Mahoney	318	Boomer Payne	122	Sonny Siaki	384	Vito Thomaselli
324	Buff Bagwell	31	Christian	434	Rory Fox	12	Jeff Jarrett	353	Rapid Fire Maldonado	431	J.J. Perez	425	Russel Simpson	421	Robert Thompson
406	J.C. Bailey	135	Cima	379	Jardi Frantz	317	Jason the Legend	359	Mana	409	Scott Phoenix	364	Brock Singleton	472	Jack Thriller
221	Shane Ballard	305	Jerrelle Clark	264	Sumo Fuji	478	J-Busta	55	Naomichi Marufuji	380	T.J. Powers	351	Sinn	373	K.C. Thunder
223	Shannon Ballard	386	Caprice Coleman	239	Minoru Fujita	405	Jeremy V	240	Masada	161	Predator	301	Gene Sinsky	84	Tiger Mask IV
461	BAM	154	Chad Collyer	138	Sho Funaki	10	Chris Jericho	266	Vinny Massaro	360	Eric Priest	201	Skayde	237	James Tighe
485	Billy Bart	166	Carly Colon	282	Gabriel	70	Johnny Jeter	185	Chris Masters	241	Josh Prohibition	81	Elix Skipper	230	Dick Togo
309	Mike Barton	45	Rob Conway	19	Hector Garza	112	Mark Jindrak	156	Joey Matthews	89	C.M. Punk	257	Seth Skyfire	217	Tokyo Magnum
67	Danny Basham	69	Steve Corino	404	Scotty Gash	388	Johnny the Body	142	Maven	224	Mike Quackenbush	283	Slash	141	Tank Toland
63	Doug Basham	220	Justin Credible	252	Gedo	378	Mac Johnson	195	Joel Maximo	227	Bobby Quance	456	Slim J	76	Tyson Tomko
432	Don Basher	210	Jason Cross	175	Glenn Gilberti	213	Tony Jones	197	Jose Maximo	226	Quiet Storm	193	Bison Smith	473	El Tornado
20	Batista	447	John Curse	367	Gillberg	137	Orlando Jordan	445	Johnny Maxx	482	Bulldog Raines	262	Harry Smith	416	Oman Tortuga
422	Billy Bax	332	Da Beast	48	Bill Goldberg	459	Joseph	438	Rob McBride	342	Rainman	131	Al Snow	3	Triple-H
218	B-Boy	238	Shawn Daivari	345	Ray Gordy	412	J-Rocc	219	Nigel McGuinness	365	John Rambo	334	Jimmy Snuka Jr.	134	Ultimo Dragon
363	Rob Begley	273	Dallas	228	Zach Gowen	307	Juggernaut	233	M-Dogg 20	392	Chasyn Rance	399	George South Sr.	94	Ultimo Guerrero
346	Mark Bell	440	T.J. Dalton	426	Johnny Graham	348	Justice	469	Mega	199	Jimmy Rave	83	Spanky	23	The Undertaker
341	Mike Bell	173	Damien 666	488	Bruiser Graham	451	Apollo Kahn	369	Mace Mendoza	35	Raven	420	Glen Spectre	28	Rob Van Dam
460	Rod Bell	493	Danger	496	Gran Akuma	13	Kane	9	Shawn Michaels	80	Luther Reigns	435	Phantom Lord Spiro	302	Savio Vega
16	Shelton Benjamin	25	Christopher Daniels	291	Gran Apolo	139	Koji Kanemoto	177	Taka Michinoku	357	Reno	423	Greg Spitz	259	Jimmy Vegas
1	Chris Benoit	247	Danny Daniels	275	Gran Hamada	311	Evan Karagias	371	Mike the Miz	194	Ricky Reyes	466	J.T. Stahr	99	Val Venis
293	Biggie Biggs	209	Josh Daniels	296	Gran Naniwa	6	Toshiaki Kawada	231	Milano Collection AT	222	Dusty Rhodes Jr.	117	Johnny Stamboli	308	Slash Venom
41	Big Show	374	Ace Darling	436	Supreme Lee Great	50	Kazarian	143	Mitsuharu Misawa	57	Rhyno	352	Standing Thunder	464	Vince Vicallo
433	Bio-hazard	452	Major DeBeers	306	Dennis Gregory	395	Sterling James Keenan	22	Rey Misterio Jr.	106	Steven Richards	439	Jeff Starr	162	Dr. Wagner Jr.
463	Billy Black	490	Seth Delay	60	Sylvan Grenier	491	Conrad Kennedy III	79	Rey Misterio Sr.	66	Rico	196	Ace Steel	236	John Walters
153	Black Tiger	376	Delirious	429	Eddie Guapo	78	Pat Kenney	328	Mike Modest	95	Rikishi	355	Rod Steel	327	Nate Webb
115	Black Warrior	498	Mike Dell	52	Juventud Guerrera	65	Kid Kash	129	Mike Mondo	415	Sal Rinauro	383	Bruce Steele	198	B.J. Whitmer
410	K.C. Blade	387	Steve DeMarco	17	Chavo Guerrero Jr.	92	Billy Kidman	88	Shannon Moore	86	Essa Rios	500	Rod Steele	260	Chad Wicks
400	Bart Blaxon	495	Vennis DeMarco	2	Eddie Guerrero	18	Ron Killings	73	Mordecai	458	Roughhouse Rivera	168	Aaron Stevens	171	Doug Williams
234	Blue Meanie	183	Johnny Devine	62	Billy Gunn	343	Arch Kincaid	49	Donovan Morgan	391	Rockin' Rebel	119	Chase Stevens	178	Petey Williams
127	Blue Panther	271	DeVito	468	Gutter	471	Eddie Kingston	182	Takehiro Murahama	418	Roman	349	Devon Storm	303	T.J. Wilson
465	Hook Bomberry	149	Julio Dinero	40	Charlie Haas	372	Joey Knight	333	Murder 1	189	Rocky Romero	64	James Storm	326	Adam Windsor
24	Booker T	492	Shirley Doe	424	The Hacker	446	Kevin Knight	344	Frank Murdoch	98	Rosey	202	Johnny Storm	320	Dusty Wolfe
322	Blade Boudreaux	401	Shawn Donavan	480	Snatch Haggis	366	Robin Knightwing	389	Dropkick Murphy	163	Bobby Rude	323	Striker	362	Jack Xavier
402	The Bouncer	294	Danny Doring	174	Halloween	4	Kenta Kobashi	33	Keiji Muto	281	Jason Rumble	292	The Stro	476	Xero
290	Ryan Boz	126	Andy Douglas	457	Hallowicked	109	Satoshi Kojima	96	Yuji Nagata	32	Chris Sabin	304	Roderick Strong	441	Eric Xstasy
246	Brad Bradley	180	Shane Douglas	256	Chris Hamrick	164	Konnann	167	Manabu Nakanishi	146	Sabu	321	Sedrick Strong	248	Yossino
284	Tom Brandi	437	Ryan Drago	413	Major Hardway	215	Tony Kozina	251	Prince Nana	448	Jeromy Sage	148	Matt Stryker	206	David Young
347	Brandon K	172	Dragon Kid	39	Matt Hardy	462	Krazy K	335	Naphtali	130	Mascara Sagrada	8	A.J. Styles	181	Eric Young
				44	Chris Harris	243	Mike Krue	414	E.C. Negro	428	Michael Sain	449	Suba	295	Zebra Kid
				249	Teddy Hart	38	L.A. Park			145	Sakoda	481	Tommy Suede	499	MISTER Zero



## WE SAID BENOIT WOULD BE THE MAN

**W**E HATE TO say we told you so, but ... Check out this headline from our January issue: "Chris Benoit: Greatness Within His Grasp! (Is It Too Early To Start Thinking About Next Year's '500'?)"

In the accompanying story, we suggested that if Benoit maintained the ferocious pace he had set in the first half of the "grading period" for the "500" and finally made a real run at a world championship, that number-one spot was his for the taking. Benoit told us that grabbing that top spot was one of his career goals and thought it was a realistic one since his good friend Dean Malenko did it in 1997 without contending for a world title. "I wouldn't bet against Benoit, because there is a precedent for selecting the number-one wrestler based mostly on pure skill," offered Managing Editor Brandi Mankiewicz, who reluctantly coordinates the massive project that is the "500" each year.

Before you chastise us for giving ourselves too much credit for making predictions on a list that we control completely, we should admit that the aforementioned headline was pulled out of the January 2000 issue of *PWI*. We were ready to give that top spot to Benoit five years ago, but we had a feeling it might be a struggle to justify doing so if he didn't at least get shots at the WCW World title. He did get one on pay-per-view in January 2000, but only because others were injured and the card had to be reworked at the last minute. He even won the title. But he left for the WWF the next day, and WCW came up with a silly explanation to try to get us to forget what we saw. It was back to mid-card status soon after he, Malenko, Eddie Guerrero, and Perry Saturn arrived together in the WWF. The best we could do was number three in that next "500."

But there he was on March 14, 2004, celebrating a world title win at the end of a WrestleMania, with, appropriately, Eddie Guerrero, who had defended his own world title earlier. We suspected then that they might end up one-two. It was just a question of who would be one and who would be two. In the end, there wasn't much of a debate. Benoit was our guy.

Did it help that Kurt Angle missed five months due to injury, that Brock Lesnar left to play football after WrestleMania, that Goldberg, too, was gone after March 14, that Undertaker was dead for four months, and that The Rock is still off making movies? Of course it did, but it

doesn't diminish what Benoit accomplished. He had a great year by anyone's standards. As for 2005 ... you know, it's never too early to start thinking about next year's "500." Randy Orton seems to have greatness within his grasp. If he doesn't get that top spot in 2005, we sure like his chances in 2009.

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Examining the criteria for the "*PWI* 500," it is readily apparent that Benoit excelled in all. They are (in order of importance):

- Win-loss record
- Technical ability
- Influence on the sport
- Success against the highest grade of competition
- Success against the most diverse competition
- Activity

As always, keep in mind that the "*PWI* 500" is not a ranking for the calendar year January through December. The "grading period" this year runs from July 2003 through July 2004.

Any wrestler who has lost significant time due to injury can either be dropped from the list entirely (in which case he will be listed in "Farewell To The 500" with a disabled list—DL—designation) or receive a ranking that might not be commensurate with his abilities or the amount of success he enjoyed in a reduced time frame.

Feel free to offer your feedback. You can reach us with your comments at "*PWI* 500," P.O. Box 1148, Fort Washington, PA 19034. Or you can e-mail us at londonpub@kappapublishing.com (please write "*PWI* 500" in the subject field).

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[Editor's note: The numbers in parentheses following each name represent the wrestler's height, weight, years of pro experience, and ranking in the 2003 "*PWI* 500." An "NL" means the wrestler was not listed a year ago. Following the ratings is a complete listing of wrestlers ranked in 2003 but not in 2004 (page 55), as well as an alphabetical cross-reference to the "*PWI* 500" (pages 56-57).]

## 1 CHRIS BENOIT

(5'10", 224, 18, 13)

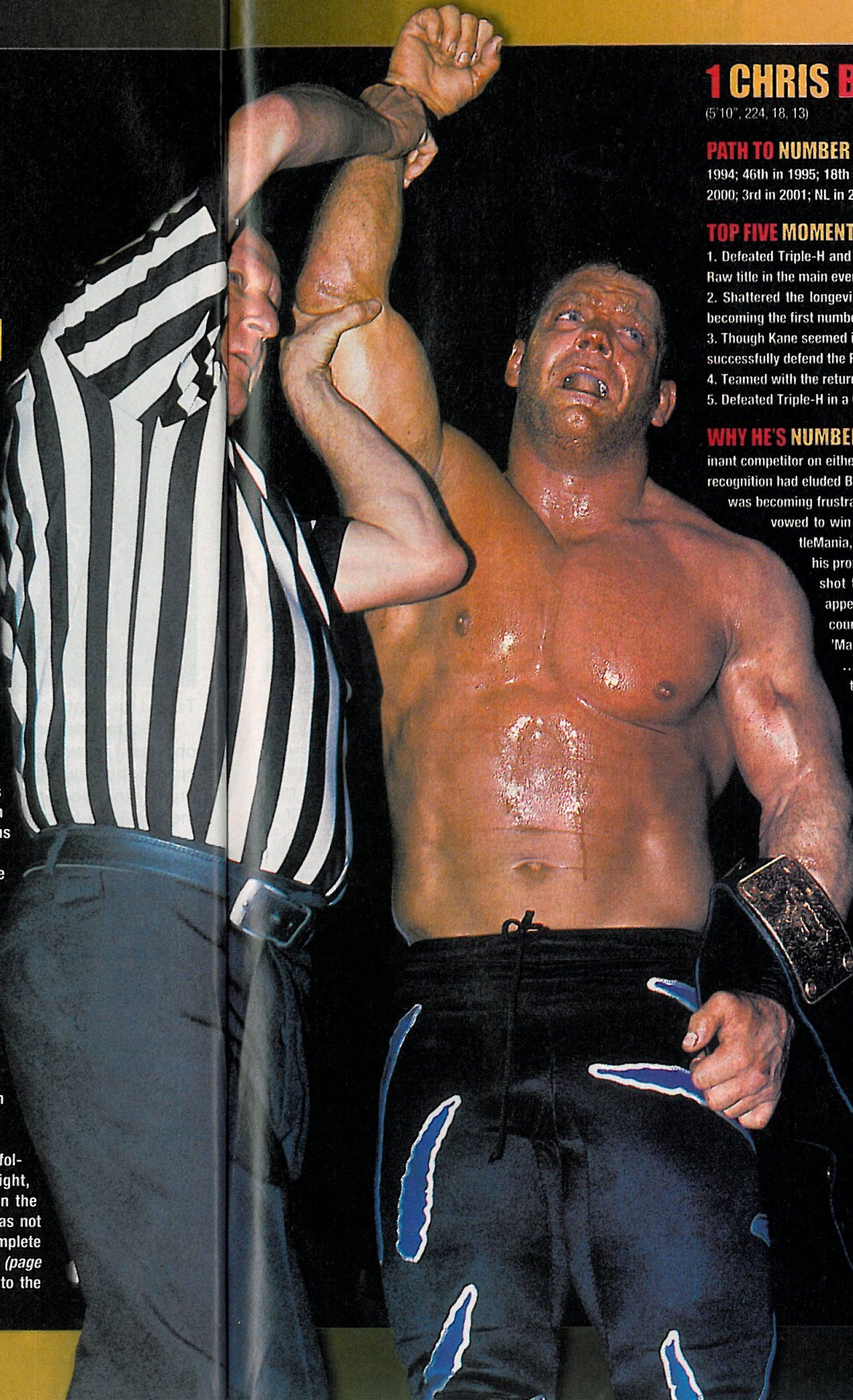
**PATH TO NUMBER ONE** 107th in 1991; 99th in 1992; 44th in 1993; 43rd in 1994; 46th in 1995; 18th in 1996; 10th in 1997; 19th in 1998; 20th in 1999; 3rd in 2000; 3rd in 2001; NL in 2002; 13th in 2003.

### TOP FIVE MOMENTS OF THE YEAR

1. Defeated Triple-H and Shawn Michaels in a three-way match to win the WWE Raw title in the main event of WrestleMania XX.
2. Shattered the longevity record en route to winning the 2004 Royal Rumble, becoming the first number-one entrant to go the distance and win the event.
3. Though Kane seemed impervious to his Crippler crossface, he still managed to successfully defend the Raw title against "The Big Red Machine" at Bad Blood.
4. Teamed with the returning Edge to win the Raw tag team title in April.
5. Defeated Triple-H in a 60-minute "Ironman" match shown live on *Raw* in July.

**WHY HE'S NUMBER ONE** "The Rabid Wolverine" has been the most dominant competitor on either WWE brand over the past year ... World championship recognition had eluded Benoit throughout his career, and by the close of 2003, he was becoming frustrated with his role as a mid-carder for Smackdown ... He vowed to win the Royal Rumble and a guaranteed title shot at WrestleMania, and against all odds, he managed to follow through on his promise ... Surprised everyone by using his guaranteed title shot to challenge Raw champion Triple-H ... The surprise appearance on *Raw* the night after the Rumble showed true courage ... Even the insertion of Shawn Michaels into the 'Mania main event didn't distract Benoit from the goal at end ... By the end of 'Mania XX, it was Benoit celebrating amid the falling confetti, holding the championship belt high as he was embraced by Eddie Guerrero ... Defended the title honorably against all competition for five months ... Redefined the concept of a fighting champion, as he briefly held the tag title while Raw champion, which forced him to wrestle twice at Bad Blood ... Showed that a world-class wrestler without a ton of charisma can still succeed in today's WWE.

**WHERE HE'S HEADED** Unfortunately for Benoit, when you're number one, the only direction you can go is down. It is unlikely Benoit will dominate the Raw brand for long. Triple-H, Randy Orton, Batista, Edge, Chris Jericho, and maybe even Eugene will have something to say about it. Evolution was committed to taking Benoit's title away—it was just assumed that the group's leader, Triple-H, and not Orton would be the man to do it. Will Benoit be able to regroup and make another run for the belt? Or has the fact that he has finally attained his lifelong dream weakened his resolve? After winning championships, a lot of pro sports teams follow up with disappointing seasons. Though they still have the talent in place, they find that they've lost some of the hunger that took them to the top. If Benoit can stay hungry, he'll be a force in the Raw title picture for the next few years at least. If he softens, it could be back to the mid-card shuffle. Right now, the choice is up to him.





**2 EDDIE GUERRERO** (5'8", 223, 16, 9) Conquered addiction and made it to the top of WWE ... Defeated Brock Lesnar for the WWE title at No Way Out ... Had little difficulty in his feud with nephew Chavo Jr. ... Had considerably more trouble with John Bradshaw Layfield ... Smart money is that "Latino Heat" will regain the Smackdown title several times before he's through.

**3 TRIPLE-H** (6'5", 269, 13, 2) "The Game" is the most dangerous man on the Raw roster and the leader of Evolution ... Lost the Raw title to Chris Benoit at WrestleMania XX ... Finally put his long-running feud with Shawn Michaels to rest after a grueling 47-minute "Hell In A Cell" match at Bad Blood ... Married Stephanie McMahon (for real this time) last fall ... Streamlined his physique considerably, which has helped his cardiovascular conditioning.

**4 KENTA KOBASHI** (6'2", 262, 16, 8) The current Pro Wrestling NOAH Global Honored Crown champion ... Has bounced back from more career-threatening knee surgeries than anyone can even remember ... Knocks opponents for a loop with his wicked lariat ... A three-time former Triple Crown champion ... Inventor of the burning hammer, an upside-down version of the Death Valley driver that ends like a brainbuster.

**5 RANDY ORTON** (6'5", 265, 4, 63) In last year's "PWI 500," we wrote that Orton was "a favorite to win the I-C belt by 2004" ... He actually did it two weeks before the end of 2003 ... Won tremendous respect by pinning Mick Foley at WrestleMania and at Backlash ... The third-generation superstar is Raw's top young stud ... His RKO version of the Ace crusher has served him well ... Became the youngest WWE World champ by beating Benoit at SummerSlam.

**6 TOSHIAKI KAWADA** (5'10", 240, 23, NL) All-Japan Triple Crown champion has been a mainstay with the company since his pro debut ... Recently defeated Mick Foley in a title defense ... Known for yellow and black ring attire and his brutal kicks to the face and head ... Has had classic matches with men like Misawa, Kenta Kobashi, Hiroshi Hase, and Genichiro Tenryu ... Loves to make opponents submit to his stretch plum ... Pet move is the brainbuster.

**7 JOHN CENA** (6'3", 260, 4, 12) Self-professed "Doctor Of Thuganomics" is one of Smackdown's young lions ... Frequently showcased his incredible strength by executing his FU finisher on The Big Show ... Former OWW champion won the U.S. title at WrestleMania XX ... Still not afraid to use his chain as a weapon, even though he's a fan favorite ... Always manages to annoy Kurt Angle.

**8 A.J. STYLES** (5'10", 202, 7, 11) The two-time NWA champion might be the most exciting talent in wrestling today ... Snagged a NWA title win over Jeff Jarrett in April but lost it two weeks later ... As a testament to his versatility, Styles also has held Ring of Honor's pure wrestling, the NWA tag, and the X division titles ... Has also wrestled Christopher Daniels in some classic matches in 3PW this year.

**9 SHAWN MICHAELS** (6', 217, 21, 32) It's hard to believe it once looked like HBK could never wrestle again ... Wrestled arch-rival Triple-H to a draw in a last-man-standing match at the 2004 Royal Rumble ... Was part of the spectacular three-way Raw title match at WrestleMania ... Lost to Triple-H in a brutal 47-minute "Hell In A Cell" match at Bad Blood ... Due to injuries sustained at the hands of Kane days later, Michaels was expected to miss several months.

**10 CHRIS JERICHO** (5'10", 225, 14, 5) The man who unified the WCW and WWF world titles expended more energy chasing Trish Stratus than title belts in the past year ... Made it to the final four of the 2004 Royal Rumble ... Betrayed by Trish at 'Mania, leading to Christian's victory ... Poised to become one of Raw's top players ... Schooled in Mexican, Japanese, and European styles of wrestling.

**11 HIROYOSHI TENZAN** (6', 248, 14, 57) Longtime star of New Japan captured the IWGP heavyweight title twice in the last year ... Breaks opponents down with his chops and headbutts ... Seven-time holder of the IWGP International tag team title ... Still wears his buffalo head gear and horns to the ring for every match ... Frequently uses the moonsault press, but now favors his buffalo sleeperhold or tombstone driver as finishers.

**12 JEFF JARRETT** (5'10", 230, 18, 15) TNA's reigning champ has won titles in almost every promotion in which he has ever competed ... Regained the NWA title with a controversial win over A.J. Styles ... Traveled all the way to Tokyo to attack Hulk Hogan to set up a match ... We're still waiting for that one ... Has become mortal enemies with former friend Vince Russo.

**13 KANE** (6'7", 326, 10, 23) "The Big Red Ma-

chine" showed his, *uh*, masculine side by (he says) impregnating Lita and infuriating Matt Hardy ... Had surprising difficulty in his 2003 feud with Shane McMahon ... After several lackluster years, he has regained his monstrous aura ... Probably used some of J.R.'s barbecue sauce when he set Jim Ross on fire, just for laughs ... Seems to be always an inch away from a major title.

**14 EL HUIO DEL SANTO** (5'6", 170, 22, 14) Son of the most famous Luchador of all-time, El Santo, is Mexico's most in-demand performer ... Has defended his mask in countless mask vs. mask matches, and has managed to retain it every time ... Alternately feuds and teams with Negro Casas, as the two have been rivals for a decade ... *El caballo*, the camel clutch, is his finisher to this day.

**15 JOHN BRADSHAW LAYFIELD** (6'7", 309, 12, NL) Talk about going from the outhouse to the penthouse ... Bradshaw wasn't even listed in last year's "PWI 500"; now he's Smackdown champion ... Embraced his true surname—and his stock market gains—after APA partner Faarooq retired ... Got into trouble on a tour of Germany for giving a Nazi salute to the fans ... Though he has his critics, he's one of wrestling's toughest competitors.

**16 SHELTON BENJAMIN** (6'2", 245, 4, 30) WWE singles career got off to an awesome start when he upended Triple-H in his first Raw match ... Collegiate teammate of Brock Lesnar and later his tag partner in OWW ... Came so close to winning the Intercontinental title from Randy Orton at Judgment Day ... Possesses incredible balance, which greatly improves his leverage ... Spent several weeks nursing a broken hand ... Should continue to develop into one of Raw's top stars.

**17 CHAVO GUERRERO JR.** (5'7", 210, 11, 33) Finally escaped his uncle's shadow and experienced a banner year on his own ... Turned against Eddie and paid for it with a one-sided loss at the Royal Rumble ... Undeterred, he defeated Rey Mysterio Jr. for the cruiserweight title at No Way Out ... Antics with Chavo Classic, his father, were pure gold ... Wisely eschews high-risk moves in favor of more traditional wear-down holds, and quickly capitalizes on his opponents' mistakes.

**18 RON KILLINGS** (6'1", 230, 7, 48) "The Sun-tanned Superman" is now a two-time former NWA heavyweight champion ... Went through a long slump after dropping the title to Jeff Jarrett, but got his groove back as a member of 3 Live Kru along with Konnan and B.G. James ... Has perhaps the best scissors kick in the sport ... Perennially underrated ... The first African-American NWA champion in history.

**19 HECTOR GARZA** (5'10", 202, 10, 36) Hated AAA *rudo* used to be one of the promotion's most popular stars ... Female fans still love this handsome high-flyer ... Returned to action in the United States with TNA, where he was part of Team Mexico ... First gained celebrity here during the heyday of the WCW cruiserweight division ... Has a beautiful Cancun tornado press, a twisting version of the moonsault.

**20 BATISTA** (6'6", 318, 6, NL) The former OWW champ has settled into his role as the enforcer of Evolution ... Missed much of last year with a torn right triceps ... Suffered what appeared to be a huge loss to Shawn Michaels at Armageddon 2003, but went on to win the Raw tag title with Ric Flair later that night ... His overmuscled physique actually makes him more susceptible to injury and hurts his stamina.

**21 EUGENE** (6', 226, 9, 68) After an eternity waiting, Nick Dinsmore finally got a WWE gig as a wrestling savant ... Became one of Raw's most popular competitors as Eric Bischoff's "special" nephew ... A former OWW champion, Dinsmore is one of the top technical grapplers in the game, earning him the nickname "Mr. Wrestling" ... Even Evolution has recognized his potential ... Was beaten up and humiliated by the group, but has since gotten revenge on Triple-H.

**22 REY MYSTERIO JR.** (5'3", 165, 13, 19) High-flying Luchador revolutionized the sport ... Eliminated Billy Kidman and Tajiri at the WrestleMania XX cruiserweight open but he was unable to beat Chavo Guerrero Jr. ... Regained the cruiserweight title by beating Chavo Classic, then lost it to Spike Dudley in July ... Beat Chavo Jr. in a thrilling match at The Great American Bash ... Added muscle has given him more knockout power, particularly with his 619.

**23 THE UNDERTAKER** (6'9", 304, 16, 18) "The Dead Man" returned (sort of) at WrestleMania XX ... Incredible 'Mania winning streak now stands at 12-0, a record that most likely will never be matched ... Dominated Booker T in a brief feud ... Still considered Smackdown's locker room leader ... Reluctantly formed an odd alliance with Paul Heyman when the Dudleys abducted Paul Bearer ... He's proved that you can never count out "Big Evil."

**24 BOOKER T** (6'3", 250, 14, 7) The five-time former WCW World champ was unable to wrest the U.S. title away from John Cena, but he won it in an eight-man match after Cena was stripped ... Was none too happy about being traded to Smackdown following the draft lottery ... Made a tactical error in challenging The Undertaker ... Capable of beating anyone in WWE on any given night.

**25 CHRISTOPHER DANIELS** (6'0", 210, 11, 20) "The Fallen Angel" was the missing element for Team NWA, helping the American squad finally capture the X Cup in TNA ... Became the first man ever to repeat as the ECWA's Super 8 winner ... One of the most accomplished wrestlers on the independent circuit ... Teamed with former rival Brian Danielson to win the IWGP junior tag title ... Pet finishers include the Angel wings, last rites, and his vaunted "best moonsault ever."

**26 BOB SAPP** (6'6", 334, 2, NL) Fringe American football player has become a

celebrity fighter and bona fide megastar in Japan ... Handily defeated Kensuke Sasaki for the IWGP heavyweight title back in March ... Crazy charisma earned him a giant following ... Bizarre interviews often see him eating bananas and snarling a lot ... Wrestled sumo star Akebono on New Year's Eve and beat him easily in a match that drew gigantic television ratings.

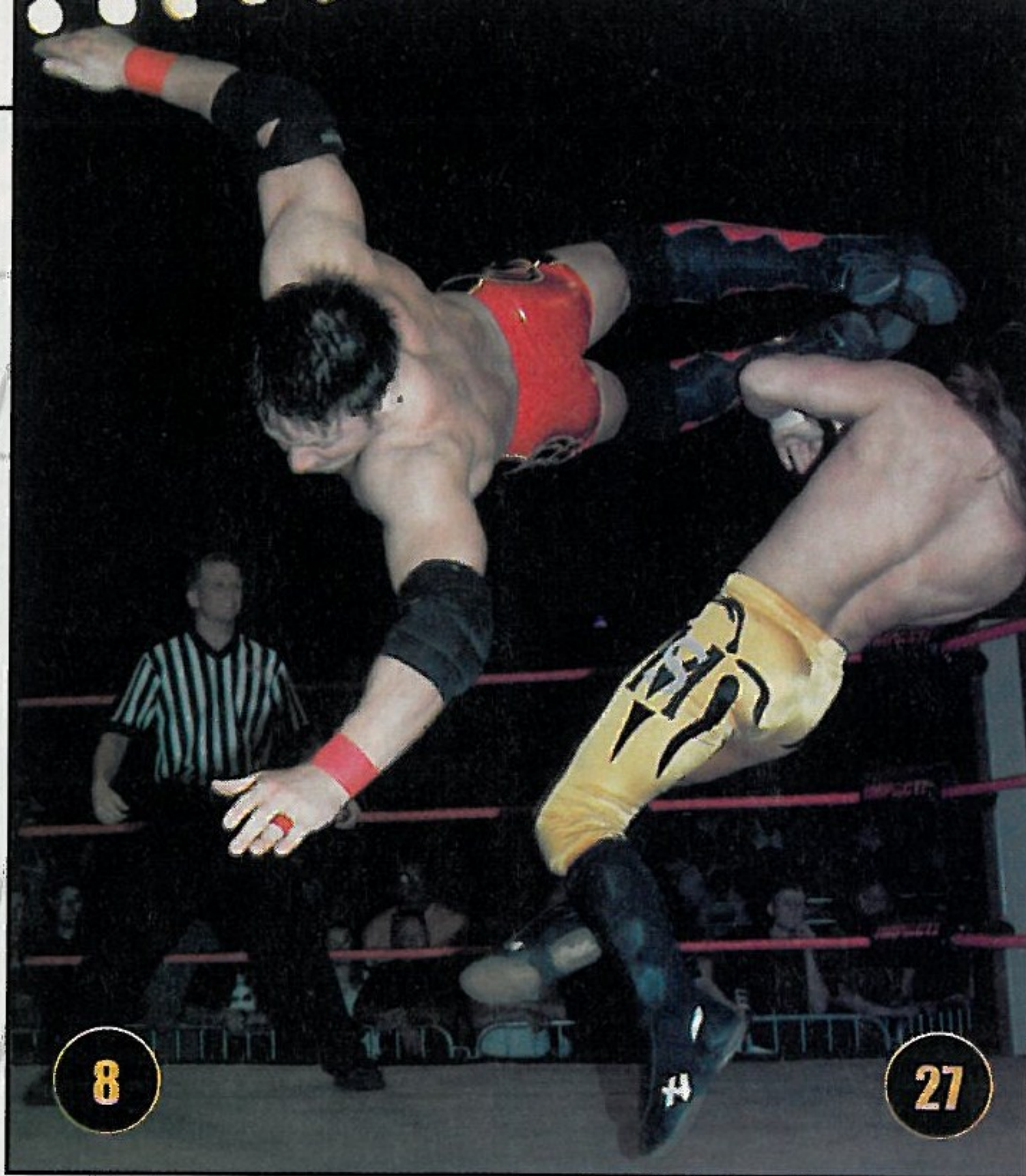
**27 MICHAEL SHANE** (6', 221, 4, 178) This cousin of Shawn Michaels was handpicked by Douglas to be the next "Franchise" ... Won the X title in the first-ever "Ultimate X" match ... Sweet chin music superkick is effective, but not nearly as effective as Michaels' ... Has also competed in ROH, WWE, ECW, FMW, MLW, AAA, Zero-One, and All-Japan ... Considered by many to be one of the brightest prospects in wrestling, due largely to his pedigree and tireless work ethic.

**28 ROB VAN DAM** (6', 237, 15, 10) Just two years ago, RVD was the top dog in the "500" ... That seems like an eternity ago ... Once considered ECW's franchise player, Van Dam had some difficulty adjusting to WWE-style matches ... The jump to Smackdown didn't help ... A perennial contender for any secondary title, Van Dam lacks the focus to make a serious run for a world championship ... Devotes a lot of his spare time to his comic book store in California.

**29 MR. NIEBLA** (5'9", 209, 12, 41) The reigning CMLL heavyweight champ has been a popular *tecnico* all of his career ... Uses his odd-shaped frame to perform feats with the ropes never seen before ... Won the CMLL title from Universo 2000 and survived challenges from Dr. Wagner Jr. and Tarzan Boy ... His signature hold is *la nieblina*, a hold that ties up an opponent's arms and legs into a tight little ball.

**30 RIC FLAIR** (6'1", 243, 31, 53) As he often says, Space Mountain may be the oldest ride in the park, but it still has the longest lines ... Arguably 15 years past his prime, Flair has remained an impact player as part of Evolution ... Seems to have finally given up world title aspirations to mentor Randy Orton and Batista ... Flair and Batista have made for one of Raw's most dangerous teams ... His autobiography, *To Be The Man*, is a must-read for any wrestling fan.

**31 CHRISTIAN** (6'1", 225, 9, 28) Despite an impressive resume that includes multiple Intercontinental, tag team, and light heavyweight title runs, the "Creepy Little Bastard" remains one of WWE's most underrated wrestlers ... Apparently Trish Stratus liked his credentials, however ... Didn't fare well in his feud with Chris Jericho, although he did upset him at WrestleMania ... Missed several months this summer with a back injury.





**32 CHRIS SABIN** (6', 215, 4, 146) Sabin's career has progressed by leaps and bounds since he joined Team NWA ... Was a dominant TNA X champion ... Was forced to relinquish the title due to injury, but handed over the belt in sportsmanlike fashion ... Has excelled against international competition in X Cup action ... In many ways, he resembles a young Jerry Lynn ... If he's a young Lynn, Michael Shane might be his RVD.

**33 KEJI MUTO** (6'1", 244, 21, 4) President of All-Japan Pro Wrestling ... His BATT group jump-started his career at the turn of the century ... A two-time former All-Japan Triple Crown champ, as well as a three-time IWGP heavyweight champ ... Years of abuse have caused his knees to weaken ... December appearance in the U.S. with Ring of Honor drew a record-breaking attendance figure for the company ... Finisher is the shining wizard, a wicked knee strike to the temple or face.

**34 SAMOA JOE** (6'3", 290, 4, 155) The reigning Ring of Honor champion has held the belt for over a year ... This powerhouse has destroyed pretty much every opponent, including Xavier, Paul London, and C.M. Punk ... Has also defended the title in Japan ...



Competes regularly for New Japan's Los Angeles Dojo as well as IWA Mid-South ... Has several suplexes and submissions in his arsenal ... An intense competitor who uses a strong style.

**35 RAVEN** (6'1", 243, 17, 22) Experienced a career rebirth in TNA, but was unable to best Jeff Jarrett for the NWA title ... Was sidetracked by feuds with Jim Mitchell's New Church and The Gathering ... Hardcore titles notwithstanding, WWE run was a disappointment ... Evenflow DDT and drop toe-hold can come out of nowhere ... Still an enigma after all these years ... His IQ reportedly is well into genius level.

**36 KURT ANGLE** (6'1", 233, 5, 3) Hard to believe Angle has packed so much into a five-year career ... More neck and spinal problems forced him to head to the sidelines for four months after 'Mania ... Named GM of Smackdown by Vince McMahon ... Was tossed from a balcony by an irate Big Show, forcing him into a Dr. Evil-esque wheelchair ... Introduced Luther Reigns as his bodyguard ... Was fired as GM by McMahon and returned to the active roster in July.

**37 BUH BUH RAY DUDLEY** (6'2", 325, 10, 56) Incredibly, The Dudleys Boyz have now won 18 world tag titles, including the WWE, ECW, and WCW gold ... Remained loyal to Paul Heyman after the fall of ECW and is thrilled to call Paul an adviser now ... Throws some of the hardest jabs in wrestling ... While many see him as an old-fashioned brawler, he's also a master strategist and maintains a massive video library of potential opponents.

**38 LA PARK** (6', 230, 17, 52) After several name changes, the original man in the La Parka costume has renamed himself L.A. Park to avoid further litigation with AAA owner Antonio Pena over rights to the Parka name ... A popular regular with EMLL ... Broke from Lucha tradition by revealing his real name, Adolfo Tapia, to fans ... Favorite finisher is his twisting senton from the turnbuckles, but he's best known for his skill swinging a steel chair.

**39 MATT HARDY** (6', 213, 10, 17) The progenitor of "Mattitude" has slipped considerably since last year ... After an impressive run as cruiserweight champ, Hardy all but vanished from Smackdown ... Jumped to Raw to become an integral figure in soap opera segments ... Reunited with Lita when he attempted to save her from Kane ... What does it say about Hardy's year when Lita felt she had to sleep with Kane to prevent Kane from crippling him?

**40 CHARLIE HAAS** (6'2", 265, 8, 25) The World's Greatest Tag Team may have been just that in 2003, but they split when Shelton Benjamin was sent to Raw ... Haas' infatuation with Miss Jackie improbably led to him and Rico

winning the Smackdown tag title ... Has lost some of his competitive fire as a fan favorite ... Former standout collegiate wrestler at Seton Hall University ... Career stalled once again when Rico went down with a hamstring injury.

**41 THE BIG SHOW** (7'2", 485, 9, 6) Criticize him all you want, but The Big Show was a dominant U.S. champion prior to WrestleMania XX ... Spent most of 2003 feuding with Brock Lesnar ... Defeated Eddie Guerrero for the U.S. title at No Mercy 2003 ... Proved to be the biggest challenge of John Cena's career ... Dropped the title to Cena at 'Mania ... Has arguably the most devastating choke-slam in all of wrestling.

**42 TAJIRI** (5'7", 224, 10, 62) Talk about poor planning: Tajiri recruits Akio and Sakoda—and then gets sent to Raw ... Boasts some of the stiffest kicks in wrestling ... His tarantula submission and green mist always get crowd reactions, regardless of whether he's in the fans' good graces ... Former ECW TV and tag champ and WCW U.S. champ ... Was a competitive kick boxer in his native Japan ... Recently formed a team with Rhyno.

**43 D-VON DUDLEY** (6'1", 260, 10, 69) The man once known as Reverend D-Von couldn't be happier to be back getting tables for Buh Buh ... It can be easy to forget just how strong he is since he always wears a shirt, which hides muscle tone ... May want to consider adding more cardio training to his workout ... The Dudleys were traded from Raw to Smackdown with Booker T in exchange for Triple-H and added a Smackdown tag title to their resume.

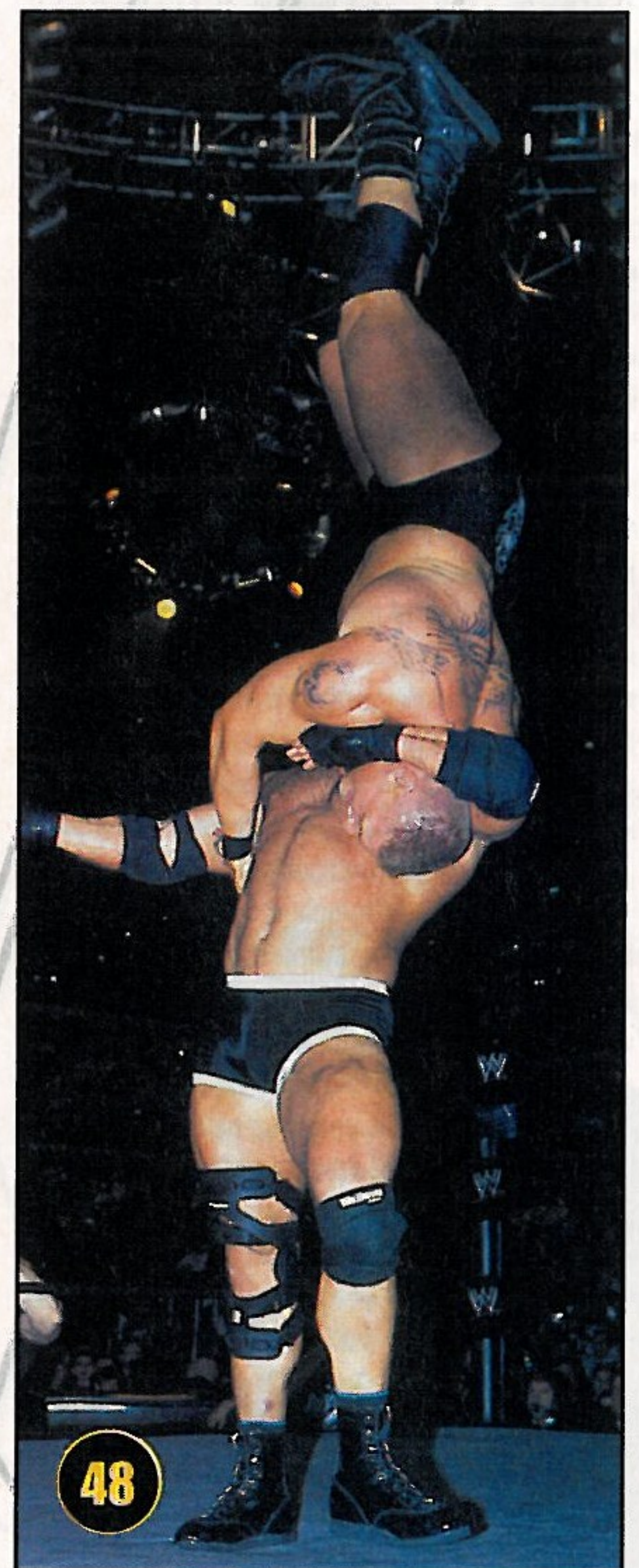
**44 CHRIS HARRIS** (6'2", 238, 3, 73) "The Wildcat" was TNA's breakout singles star of the first half of 2004 ... One-half of America's Most Wanted along with James Storm ... Earned an NWA title match against Jeff Jarrett and took the champ to the limit on March 17 ... Always adding to his offensive arsenal ... We have to wonder how Storm *really* felt about his partner's singles success.

**45 ROB CONWAY** (6', 240, 7, 104) Who even knew that Conway was a French name? ... Made his *Raw* debut as a member of La Resistance ... The "Ironman" is a former partner and blood enemy of Nick (Eugene) Dinsmore in OVW ... Three-time OVW heavyweight champion ... Lost to Chris Benoit in a non-title match with Johnny Nitro serving as referee ... Has great potential as a singles wrestler.

**46 LATIN LOVER** (5'9", 199, 16, 94) Charismatic *technico* avoided losing his hair to Hector Garza this past year ... Sometimes guest stars on Mexican soap operas ... Muscular exotic dancer is an all-time favorite with the female fans of AAA ... Challenged Jeff Jarrett for the NWA title at El Toreo in March, but the interference of Abyss cost him the belt ... Known for his long, dark hair, cat-like reflexes, and his lightning-quick superkick.

**47 SHINYA HASHIMOTO** (5'11", 287, 19, 52) Top star of the Zero-One promotion is also a former All-Japan Triple Crown champ ... Former IWGP heavyweight champion as well ... One of the biggest names in *puroresu* over the last two decades ... Briefly held the NWA heavyweight title ... Routinely destroys big men like The Predator and Tom Howard ... Feared for his powerful kicks and deadly accuracy ... Noted for his brutal brainbuster and leaping DDT.

**48 BILL GOLDBERG** (6'4", 283, 6, 39) "Da Man" had his swan song against Brock Lesnar at WrestleMania XX, but the fans didn't seem to mind that he was leaving ... Feuded with Triple-H throughout the summer of 2003 before finally winning the Raw title at Unforgiven in September ... Held the belt for three months before dropping it back to Triple-H ... Beat Naoya Ogawa in January in Japan's Hustle-1 promotion ... Plans to continue wrestling part-time in Japan.



**49 MATT MORGAN** (7', 330, 2, 169) OVW champ spent several months as part of the Smackdown roster before being sent back to Louisville ... Teamed with Nathan Jones, The Big Show, and Brock Lesnar as

Paul Heyman's freakishly large team at the 2003 Survivor Series ... Was part of the 1996 Monmouth University basketball team that made it to the NCAA tournament ... Was considered the front-runner in the *Tough Enough II* competition until a knee injury forced him to withdraw.

**50 KAZARIAN** (6'1", 220, 8, 131) The former TNA X champ has made plenty of enemies in TNA, but has held his own against Chris Sabin and The Amazing Red ... Claims to be the greatest X champ in TNA history ... Known for his insane flying leaps outside the ring ... Usually enjoys a significant size advantage against many of his X division opponents ... Currently aligned with Michael Shane and Tracy Brooks.

**51 SPIKE DUDLEY** (5'7", 155, 9, 76) Finally got his wish and was traded to Smackdown, where he won the cruiserweight title from Rey Mysterio Jr. in July ... A former third grade teacher from Rhode Island ... His ability to absorb punishment is obscene ... Held the ECW and WWE tag team titles ... The giants are finally starting to take the "giant killer" seriously, which is bad news for Spike ... Pound-for-pound, has to be considered one of the sport's toughest men.

**52 JUVENTUD GUERRERA** (5'5", 175, 12, 90) Found stardom again last year in Mexico by challenging for Felino's CMLL welterweight title, then jumped to rival promotion AAA ... Teamed with Ricky Marvin for Pro Wrestling NOAH ... Led AAA's Team Mexico in TNA for a while ... A three-time former WCW cruiserweight champion ... Lost his mask to Chris Jericho at SuperBrawl VIII in 1998 ... Signature finishers are the Michinoku (Juvi) driver and the 450 splash.

**53 JUSHIN LIGER** (5'6", 208, 21, 66) Most influential junior heavyweight of the last decade ... Has held the IWGP junior heavyweight title 10 times, and an 11th title win here in the States isn't recognized in his homeland ... Has also held the IWGP junior and Osaka Pro tag titles ... Inventor of the Liger bomb and shooting star press ... Won NOAH's junior heavyweight title as well last year, and took it back to New Japan with him.

**54 Hardcore Holly** (6'1", 249, 11, NL) Returned to the ring after suffering a broken neck at the hands of Brock Lesnar in the fall of 2002 ... Lost to Lesnar at the 2004 Royal Rumble ... After his manhandling of Matt Cappotelli, he has earned a reputation for being wrestling's big bully ... Added a vicious full-nelson to his offensive arsenal but was more concerned about breaking Lesnar's neck than winning the belt ... He did neither.

**55 NAOMICHI MARUFUJI** (5'11", 211, 6, NL) Top junior heavyweight of the NOAH promotion won the 2004 Super J Cup ... Has experience wrestling for Zero-One and AAA ... Known for his baggy pants and wild hair ... Regular partner of KENTA ... Quick high-flyer has a great dropkick and spectacular

suicide dives ... Former junior heavyweight champion in NOAH ... Finisher is the *shiranui*.

**56 ABYSS** (6'4", 295, 5, NL) The man monster came into TNA after steamrolling the competition in Puerto Rico's IWA ... Probably the most powerful and dangerous wrestler in TNA ... Held the tag title with Styles ... Black hole slam finisher is utterly devastating ... Now allied with Goldylocks in a very weird pairing ... Hard to tell what his motivations are, but it's clear that he just enjoys hurting people.

**57 RHYNO** (5'10", 275, 10, NL) It's hard to get a handle on the last ECW World champ ... Turned heel and feuded with Chris Benoit and Bradshaw ... Was sent to Raw in the draft lottery in March and is now back in the fans' good graces as a partner to Tajiri ... His gore is explosive ... Stocky build and low center of gravity make him a difficult man to topple.

**58 THE HURRICANE** (6'1", 210, 13, 21) By day, he is mild-mannered reporter Gregory Helms (sometimes), but when night falls, he's a bona fide super hero ... Continues to take Rosey under his emerald wing ... Despite the comedy gimmick, he is a former WWE and WCW hardcore champ, WWE and WCW cruiserweight champ, WWE tag champ, and European champ ... Stopped trying to use the choke-slam as a finisher ... Also used a brutal vertebreaker finisher.

**59 EDGE** (6'4", 240, 11, 34) Still regaining momentum after neck surgery forced him to miss most of 2003 ... Sent to Raw in the draft lottery ... Teamed with Chris Benoit to win the Raw tag title ... Still uses the spear, even though it exposes his vertebrae to further injury ... Won the Intercontinental title from Randy Orton in July ... This might be his time to make a serious run at the Raw title now that Orton has it.

**60 SYLVAN GRENIER** (6'2", 240, 2, 118) Graduate of Dory Funk's Conservatory continues to make an impact with Raw ... Sidelined with injuries in 2003 and was replaced by Rob Conway in La Resistance ... Now teaming with Conway full-time ... Lost to Rosey and Hurricane at Backlash ... Regained the Raw tag title on May 31 in Montreal, beating Chris Benoit and Edge ... Continues to irritate fans by insulting Americans and singing "O Canada" at every turn.

**61 D-LO BROWN** (6'3", 281, 11, 80) The former WWE "Euro-continental champion" is a perennial contender to the NWA title ... Had a career rebirth in TNA in 2003 ... Formed a team with Puerto Rican standout Gran Apolo ... The two held the TNA tag title for one week, winning it from and losing it to Kid Kash and Dallas ... Has one of the most effective frog splashes in wrestling ... Had memorable TNA feuds with Jeff Jarrett, Monty Brown, and A.J. Styles.



**62 BILLY GUNN** (6'4", 268, 11, NL) "Mr. Ass" returned to the ring in January after missing some time to undergo shoulder surgery ... WWE hyped his return by presenting weekly "best of Billy Gunn" segments ... Apparently Goldberg wasn't a fan, as he eliminated Gunn from the Royal Rumble ... A 10-time tag team champion, Intercontinental champion, hardcore champion, and King of the Ring winner in WWE ... Even after all these years, still catches opponents with his famous finisher.

**63 DOUG BASHAM** (6'2", 245, 11, 51) Went from being OWW's top heel to co-holder of the Smackdown tag title ... Ran roughshod over OWW for several years ... Does any man in wrestling have more luck with the ladies? Doug has been managed by Victoria, Miss Jackie, Nikita, and Shaniqua ... Engaged in an epic feud with Nick Dinsmore (Eugene) ... Doug is the nephew of OWW owner Danny Davis.

**64 JAMES STORM** (6', 225, 3, 77) Watched his partner, Chris Harris, wrestle for the NWA title in the spring ... Proved to be a very loyal by supporting Harris rather than grousing about his title aspirations hurting the team ... Call him the Horatio to Harris' Hamlet ... America's Most Wanted has been the most successful team in TNA's existence ... Storm is the rugged brawler of AMW.

**65 KID KASH** (5'10", 202, 14, 71) The 14-year veteran has become one of the most obnoxious players in TNA ... Was one of the first wrestlers to sign a loyalty oath to Jeff Jarrett ... Pulled a major coup when he introduced the massive Dallas as his surprise partner and immediately won the NWA tag title ... Has also held the X title ... Got into hot water with TNA management over some derogatory remarks he made about the company.

**66 RICO** (6', 239, 5, 99) Since adopting an Adrian Street-inspired gimmick, Rico has become one of Smackdown's most popular wrestlers ... Had surprising success teaming with Charlie Haas ... Infuriates and embarrasses opponents with playful slaps on the rear and over-the-top prancing ... His opponents should remember Rico is also a former Las Vegas police officer ... Former OWW champ ... Managed by Miss Jackie ... Sidelined with a torn hamstring during the summer.

**67 DANNY BASHAM** (6'3", 250, 5, 65) Held the OWW title several times as The Damaja

... Ping-ponged back and forth from fan favorite to heel, alternately feuding and teaming with Doug Basham ... Signed with WWE as Basham's brother ... Managed to somehow team with Doug in WWE while feuding with him in OWW ... They quickly won the Smackdown tag title ... Favors the brain Damaja (seated Baldo bomb) finisher ... Also partnered with Nick Dinsmore (Eugene) and Rob Conway in OWW.

**68 SHOCKER** (5'8", 191, 9, 16) Charismatic EMLL star goes back and forth between the *rudos* and *technicos*, but nothing seems to diminish his incredible popularity ... He lost his mask to former tag partner Mr. Niebla years ago ... Leader of Los Guapos ... Still feuds with Vampiro—the two have been discussing a hair vs. hair match for more than a year ... Has a spectacular flying bodypress ... Pet submission hold is a wild stretch known as *la rayenera*.

**69 STEVE CORINO** (6'1", 229, 10, 87) "The King of Old School" seems to be turning Japanese these days ... Regularly competes in Japan's Zero-One and Ring of Honor ... Served as the front man of the Extreme Horsemen in Florida's Major League Wrestling ... The former ECW World champion is a master ring general ... Feuded with C.M. Punk ... Finishers include the old school bomb and old school expulsion.

**70 JOHNNY JETER** (6', 218, 2, 187) "The Thrillseeker" remains one of OWW's most exciting competitors ... Trained by Nick "Eugene" Dinsmore at the OWW Training Center ... Set his high school's varsity and JV pole vaulting records ... Has feuded with Dinsmore, Mark Magnus, and Chris Canyon ... Exciting aerialist always ready to take risks to entertain the fans and win matches ... Likes using a top-rope corkscrew kick as a finishing move.

**71 NICHOLAS EL MILLIONARIO** (5'10", 198, 13, 134) Once known as Psicosis, Nicho changed his name to avoid confusion with AAA's impostor Psicosis ... Participated in this year's ECWA Super 8 Tournament, where he was the first Mexico-based wrestler to be invited ... Unmasked Rey Misterio Jr. in Mexico, and

then lost his own mask to Rey Misterio Sr. ... Arguably the top star in the Tijuana wrestling wars ... Signature finisher is his top-rope legdrop.

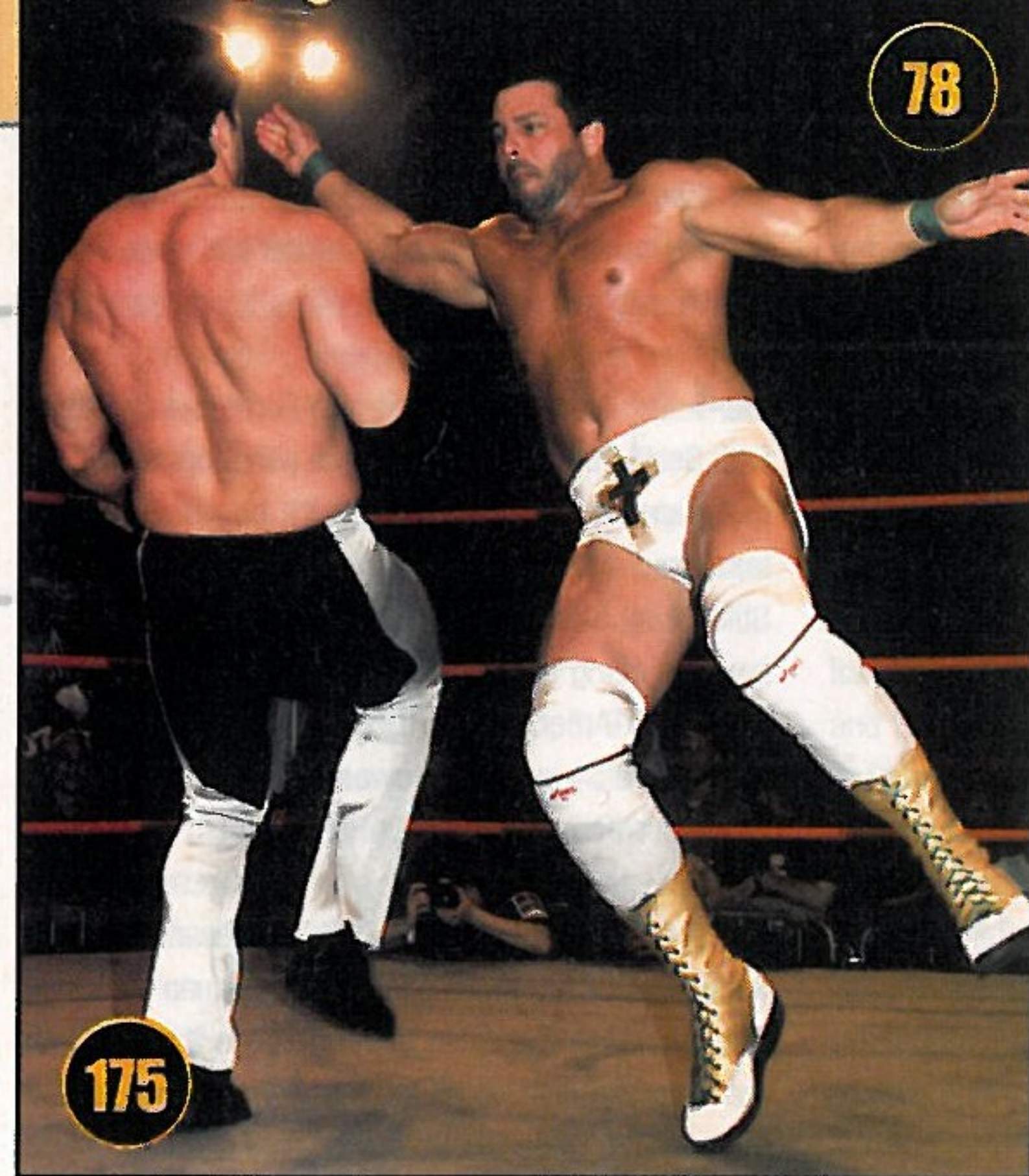
**72 KENSUKE SASAKI** (5'10", 263, 18, 191) Former IWGP heavyweight champion returned to New Japan when World Japan Pro crumbled ... Won the IWGP title for a fourth time by defeating Hiroyoshi Tenzan, but lost it to Bob Sapp ... The inventor of the Northern Lights bomb ... Revived his Power Warrior character, and sometimes wears a mask as Volcano ... Singles victory defending New Japan against All-Japan's Toshiaki Kawada remains the crowning moment of his career.

**73 DONOVAN MORGAN** (6', 220, 7, 102) The 2002 Super 8 winner has carved a niche for himself in Pro Wrestling NOAH and Pro Wrestling IRON ... Is heavily influenced by the Japanese *puroresu* style ... Held the Ring of Honor tag title with Christopher Daniels ... Typically uses a sitting chicken wing piledriver as his finisher ... Has incorporated some aerial moves into his repertoire, including the split-legged moonsault and the guillotine legdrop ... Probably the best wrestler casual fans have never heard of.

**74 C.W. ANDERSON** (6'1", 237, 10, 103) ECW alumnus is one of wrestling's most underrated talents ... No relation to the famous Anderson wrestling clan, but you wouldn't know that from his ring style, which is very similar to that used by Arn and Ole Anderson ... Competed in MLW as part of The Extreme Horsemen, along with Steve Corino, Simon Diamond, Barry Windham, and Justin Credible ... Currently competes in World-1 and Zero-One ... Like Arn, uses the spinebuster as his chief finisher ... Tremendous mat wrestling and submission-style skills.

**75 JAMIE NOBLE** (5'8", 190, 10, 50) Former cruiserweight champ isn't doing so hot without Nidia ... His redneck-on-a-rampage act has grown a bit stale, and he has slipped from cruiserweight title contention ... Competed under a mask in WCW as Jamie-san of The Jung Dragons ... WWE highlight had to be his 2003 win over Billy Gunn to win the services of Torrie Wilson in an "indecent proposal" match ... Competed in the cruiserweight open match at WrestleMania XX.

**76 TYSON TOMKO** (6'6", 292, 2, 195) The former Travis Bane made his WWE debut as a bodyguard for Trish Stratus and Christian ... Was a bit overmatched when he agreed to face Chris Jericho at Bad Blood ... Teamed with Seven (now known as Mordecai) as The Disciples of Sinn in OWW ... Played football in high school and college and competed in powerlifting on the side ... Says his hobbies are tattoos and pain.



**77 AMERICAN DRAGON** (5'8", 190, 4, 61) This Shawn Michaels trainee has found a niche for himself overseas, regularly competing in New Japan and England ... Won the IWGP junior heavyweight tag title with Curry Man ... Still competes in Ring of Honor whenever he's in the States ... Well-schooled in the artistry of wrestling, studying the British style of wrestling in his spare time ... Also competes under his given name, Bryan Danielson ... Uses a sick finisher called the cattle mutilation.

**78 PAT KENNEY** (6'2", 225, 13, 223) Formerly known as Simon Diamond, Kenney has been a standout tag team wrestler in TNA, ECW, and other promotions ... Split with long-time partner Johnny Swinger in the spring ... Dominated Swinger in their subsequent feud ... Finally getting serious after years of clowning around ... Still the significant other of WWE's Dawn Marie ... Don't be deceived by his good looks—"Irish" Pat is a top-notch brawler and an all-around tough customer.

**79 MICHAEL MODEST** (5'10", 220, 15, 58) San Francisco native has competed in the WWF, WCW, AAA, CMLL, APW, UWA, and NOAH, ... Runs Pro Wrestling IRON, where he and Donovan Morgan are the reigning tag champs ... Usually uses the reality check or the Modest driver as his finishing moves ... Also has a vast arsenal of suplexes at his disposal, including variations of the exploder and fisherman's suplex ... A versatile mat wrestler who is familiar with all international styles.

**80 LUTHER REIGNS** (6'5", 285, 8, 256) Trained at the WCW Power Plant and briefly competed in WCW ... Furthered his training with Rick Bassman in UPW, where he wrestled as Horshu ... Signed a WWE developmental deal in June 2003 ... Moved to OWW, where he was known as the evil Inspector Impact ... Made his WWE TV debut as Kurt Angle's bodyguard in April 2004 ... Has been compared to Brock Lesnar, but that might be a stretch.

**81 ELIX SKIPPER** (5'10", 228, 4, 108) "Prime Time" has been an integral part of Team NWA and has shined in X Cup competition in TNA ... That's probably due to his experience in All-Japan, where he wrestled as Dark Guerrera and The Extreme Blade ... Possesses cat-like reflexes and uncanny balance ... Former member of Triple X with Christopher Daniels and Low-Ki ... Though his high-flying moves get a lot of attention, Skipper is a skilled mat wrestler as well.

**82 PAUL LONDON** (5'10", 205, 4, 45) The former Ring of Honor icon has had a rough time in WWE ... Made his WWE TV debut on *Smackdown* and was squashed

by Brock Lesnar ... Surprised everyone by winning the tag title with Billy Kidman from Buh Buh Ray and D-Von Dudley on *Smackdown* ... His floatover dropkick and shooting star press are things of beauty ... One of WWE's most promising talents ... Is also pursuing an acting career in his spare time.

**83 SPANKY** (5'8", 184, 5, 43) Asked for and received his release from WWE after a disappointing run ... The "highlight" of his WWE career was streaking through an arena to impress Stephanie McMahon and win a contract ... Formed a promising team with Paul London, but they received scant TV time ... Trained by Shawn Michaels ... Has been quite successful in Zero-One where he is known as Leonardo Spanky ... Now appearing in ROH, Hustle, and other indies.

**84 TIGER MASK IV** (5'7", 178, 14, 89) The IWGP junior heavyweight champion's in-ring style mirrors that of the original Tiger Mask, Satoru Sayama ... Won the belt from the man who was the third Tiger Mask, Koji Kanemoto ... His Feud with American Dragon has been likened to that of the original Tiger Mask with Dynamite Kid ... Technical prowess and quickness are unmatched in the junior heavyweight division ... Prefers the Tiger suplex as a finishing maneuver.

**85 GARRISON CADE** (6'5", 262, 5, 130) One of the first graduates of the Shawn Michaels Wrestling Academy ... Scored an upset win over Lance Storm in his *Raw* debut ... Formed a formidable team with Mark Jindrak ... Now allied with Jonathan Coachman ... Has an impressive superkick and bulldog ... Former Heartland Wrestling Association champion ... According to some sources, Cade feels Michaels has conspired to keep him down and is planning to seek vengeance on HBK.

**86 ESSA RIOS** (5'8", 200, 10, NL) Still occasionally uses the name Mr. Aguila ... Appeared at Wres-

tleMania XIV in Boston before losing his mask and changing his name ... Daredevil high-flyer is now a regular with AAA, has dyed his hair red, and often makes his ring entrance with DeGeneration X's theme song playing ... Known for his corkscrew variation of moves like the *tope con hilo* and the *tope suicida* ... A member of Team Mexico in NWA-TNA.

**87 SHINJIRO OHTANI** (5'8", 224, 13, 172) Breakout star of Zero-One ... Held the IWGP junior heavyweight title during the days of the eight-title J-Crown ... Long-time partner of Masato Tanaka, the two recently split up ... Pet submission is his cobra hold ... Beefed up since his junior heavyweight days to compete in the heavyweight division ... Doesn't fly as much as before, but still has an awesome Dragon suplex.

**88 MORDECAI** (6'5", 285, 4, 125) The former Seven reinvented himself as WWE's crusader in residence, only to quickly return to OWW for more training ... Defeated Hardcore Holly at The Great American Bash, which is no small feat ... Was selected by manager Syxx as her replacement for Batista when he left OWW for WWE ... Improbably, he and Travis Bane (now known as Tyson Tomko) became fan favorites while feuding with The Jersey Crew.

**89 C.M. PUNK** (6'1", 220, 6, 171) It's been a breakout year for this Second City Saint ... Was an ROH tag champ with Ace Steel ... Almost coaxed Rick Steamboat out of retirement in ROH ... Seemed to enjoy being chopped and armdragged by Steamboat ... Former member of The Gathering in NWA-TNA ... An intellectual wrestler who isn't afraid to fight anywhere ... Just ask Teddy Hart ... He's one of the most in-demand wrestlers, competing all over the world, from Japan to England.

**90 GENICHIRO TENRYU** (6'1", 275, 28, 38) Bounces between All-Japan, New Japan, and Zero-One ... Has held both the All-Japan Triple Crown and the IWGP heavyweight title ... One of the few Japanese wrestlers to ever appear at both a Royal Rumble (1993) and a WrestleMania (VII) ... Aligned with Kensuke Sasaki and Akira Hokuto ... Known for his hard chops and kicks ... The fans have dubbed his jackhammer finisher as the "54-year-old," the current age of this *puroresu* legend.

**91 ABISMO NEGRO** (5'9", 191, 12, NL) Masked *rudo* of AAA got his first bit of American exposure this year as part of Team Mexico in NWA-TNA ... Once known as Winners in a trio with Rey Misterio Jr. and Super Calo ... Often carries a Singapore cane or blowtorch to the ring with him ... Part of the Vipers/LLL contingent in AAA ... Adequate flyer is probably better known for his brawling and his love of bending the rules.





**92 BILLY KIDMAN** (5'10", 195, 9, 78) Mr. Torrie Wilson is perpetually underappreciated by fans and promoters alike ... Competed in the cruiserweight open at WrestleMania XX ... Formed an exciting tag team with Paul London and quickly won the tag team title on *Smackdown* ... Mainly known for his shooting star press ... Was inducted into the ECWA Hall of Fame in 2004 ... Has bulked up a bit since coming to WWE from WCW.

**93 NAOYA OGAWA** (6', 232, 8, 281) One of Zero-One's top stars alongside Shinya Hashimoto, he is also one of the top ranked judo masters in the world ... Hashimoto and Ogawa form Zero-One's most popular tag team ... Held the NWA heavyweight title twice in 1999 ... Groomed for stardom by Antonio Inoki ... Signature move is the STO, which stands for space takedown Ogawa.

**94 ULTIMO GUERRERO** (6', 200, 11, 141) Forms the team Los Infernos del Ring with Rey Bucanero and Tarzan Boy ... Has wrestled in the United States, Japan, and native Mexico ... Former CMLL tag champ ... Originally used the trio name Los Infemales, but lost the right to that name to Satanico ... Feud with Shocker has resulted in some of Mexico's finest singles matches ... His reverse superplex from the top turnbuckle is a thing of beauty.

**95 RIKISHI** (6'2", 423, 18, 59) The highlight of his year was winning the Smackdown tag title with Scotty Too Hotty ... Once pushed Triple-H to the limit for the WWF World title, but now he's been released from WWE ... Still remains ridiculously popular, due to his stinkface and postmatch dance routines ... Formerly known as The Sultan and Fatu ... Maybe he should consider a new gimmick to revitalize his career now that he's back on the indy scene again.

**96 YUJI NAGATA** (6'1", 228, 12, 31) Earned the nickname "Mr. IWGP" by holding the IWGP heavyweight title through more defenses than any previous champion ... Hasn't experienced the same success in mixed martial arts fights, where he is routinely destroyed ... New Japan's technical wizard is always in contention for championships ... Relies on his repertoire of hard kicks and submission holds ... Favorite hold is his Nagata Lock II, a unique figure-four variation.

**97 ATLANTIS** (5'8", 199, 22, NL) Acapulco native remains one of EMLL's most popular *technicos* ... Famous white and blue mask is a big seller at arenas in Mexico ... One of several aquatic-themed Luchadors ... Lost the Tohoku junior title to Great Sasuke in Japan ... His planchas in and out of the ring are still picture-perfect ... One of the innovators of the high-flying style in Mexico ... Patented sub-

mission hold is *La Atlantica*, a 360 backbreaker-turned-stretch-across-the-shoulder-blades.

**98 ROSEY** (6'5", 360, 10, 120) Finally finished his super hero training this summer under Hurricane's guide ... The son of Wild Samoan Sika ... Formerly known as Kimo of The Island Boys, along with Ekmo Fatu ... They debuted in WWE as Three Minute Warning, serving as Eric Bischoff's hired guns ... Seemed a lock to win the Raw tag title, but their three minutes ran out quickly ... His girth belies a surprising grace and agility.

**99 VAL VENIS** (6'2", 250, 9, 54) His career had a rebirth last year when—as Chief Morley—he got to call some of the shots on *Raw* ... Later formed a misfit tag team with Lance Storm ... Once considered one of WWE's most controversial and entertaining characters, Venis has had trouble getting matches on *Heat*, let alone PPV ... One of the most underrated talents on the WWE roster.

**100 MASATO TANAKA** (5'11", 213, 11, 147) Wrestled everywhere from All-Japan to Big Japan before settling in with Zero-One ... Highly regarded as both a singles and tag team competitor ... To the disappointment of many fans, he recently ended his long partnership with Shinjiro Ohtani ... Loves to use the rolling elbow, which people often misinterpret as *roaring* elbow ... Long feud with Mike "Gladiator" Awesome is the stuff of legend in the Orient.

**101 MONTY BROWN** (6'1", 240, 1, NL) The former New England Patriot and Buffalo Bill has made an impressive transition from the gridiron to the squared circle ... He's kind of a reverse Brock Lesnar ... Looked quite impressive in a brief feud with Sabu ... "The Alpha Male" sports one of the most impressive physiques in all of wrestling ... Shows great explosiveness with his pounce (spear) finisher ... Should be the breakout star of 2005 for TNA.

**102 PERRO AGUAYO JR.** (5'9", 200, 9, NL) Son of legendary Perro Aguayo ... His feud with Los Hermanos Dinamitas is personal, as they retired Perro Sr. years ago after using a tombstone piledriver on him ... Jumped from AAA to the independents last year, and then to EMLL ... Wears the same furry boots made famous by his dad ... More of a brawler than a technician ... Pet finisher is the double-foot stomp to the midsection.

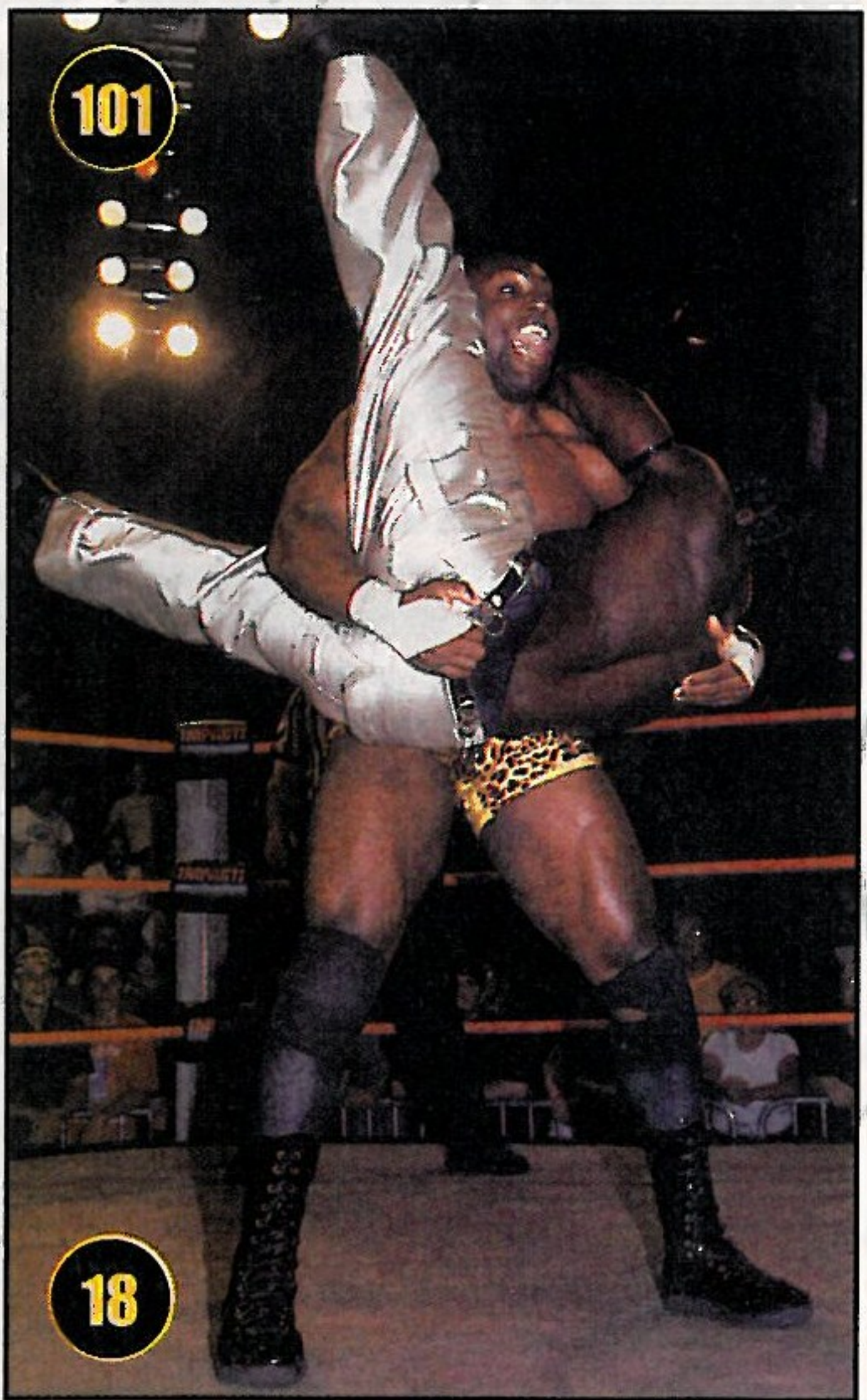
**103 MASA CHONO** (5'11", 245, 21, 46) Beloved star of New Japan Pro Wrestling ... Reviving his AristTrist group ... Former IWGP heavyweight and tag team champion ... Appeared in a number of *puroresu* dream match ups, opposite top stars like Mitsuharu Misawa and Kenta Kobashi ... Works through his persistent neck and knee injuries ... Blasts foes with

his Yakuza kick ... Trained alongside Keiji Muto and Shinya Hashimoto ... Favorite finisher has always been the STF submission hold.

**104 TEST** (6'7", 302, 7, 44) Formed a tag team with Scott Steiner, but both have seemingly fallen off the planet since ... Actually he'll be about until at least mid-2005 recovering from spinal surgery ... Still dating Stacy Keibler in the real world, so he still has that going for him ... Formerly competed as part of The Un-Americans with William Regal, Christian, and Lance Storm ... Showed flashes of greatness during his early days as a fan favorite.

**105 A-TRAIN** (6'6", 360, 7, 49) Became a strong force on Smackdown as one of Paul Heyman's resident giants ... Barrel-chested behemoth is a throwback to the classic powerhouses of yesteryear ... Instigated a feud against Chris Benoit in the fall of 2003 ... Baldo bomb finisher is tremendously effective ... Traded from Smackdown to Raw during the draft lottery ... Tore a rotator cuff during the summer and was scheduled to be out until sometime in the fall.

**106 STEVEN RICHARDS** (6'2", 227, 12, 106) It's really incredible what "Dancin'" Stevie has been able to accomplish throughout his wrestling career ... First rose to fame as Raven's patsy in ECW, where even announcer Joey Styles made fun of him ... A solid mid-card performer, Richards always delivers entertaining bouts on what he calls *Stevie Night Heat* ... His Stevie-kick is quite effective ... Now he's cross-dressing to gain the attention of former partner Victoria.



**107 HEAT** (5'8", 201, 6, 237) Once known as Minoru Tanaka, the masked man hasn't done a very good job keeping his true identity a secret ... A former IWGP junior tag champ ... Regularly teams with equally popular Tiger Mask ... Precision kicks almost never miss ... Started out in Big Japan Pro Wrestling, BattlArts, and Michinoku Pro ... Held the IWGP junior heavyweight title twice as Tanaka, once as Heat ... Signature move is called the Minoru special.

**108 RENE DUPREE** (6'4", 250, 3, 97) This former Raw tag champion is only 21 years old ... Broke away from partners Sylvan Grenier and Rob Conway when he was sent to Smackdown through the draft lottery ... This snooty Frenchman is widely considered to be a blue-chip prospect ... Nearly beat John Cena for the U.S. title several times ... Always with Fifi the French poodle ... Could benefit from taking some dancing lessons from Norman Smiley.

**109 SATOSHI KOJIMA** (6', 243, 14, 74) Former All-Japan tag champ has developed into a singles superstar with the company ... Currently a tag champion with new partner Kaz Hayashi ... Was warmly received in the United States for his appearance at Ring of Honor against Homicide ... Has yet to win a major singles championship ... Sometimes transforms into The Great Kosuke, a nod to fellow wrestler Great Sasuke ... Rydeen bomb is his signature move.

**110 KENZO SUZUKI** (6'3", 260, 4, NL) Call him the man who could have been emperor ... A former rugby star in England before joining New Japan Pro Wrestling ... Won the 2000 Young Lions Cup, beating Shinya Makabe in the finals ... Wrestled for TNA briefly ... Defeated Billy Gunn at The Great American Bash ... Married to his valet, Hiroko.

**111 NUNZIO** (5'9", 201, 13, 79) The former Little Guido delivered one of the funniest moments of 2004 when he tried to hide outside the ring at the Royal Rumble ... Unfortunately, his strategy didn't pay off for him ... Front man of The Full-Blooded Italians is used more for comedy spots than for his considerable mat skills ... Known as "The Sicilian Shooter," Nunzio is well-schooled in submission-style grappling ... Impressed Dawn Mare with his 12-inch feet at The Great American Bash.

**112 MARK JINDRAK** (6'5", 253, 5, 139) Finally got the call-up to Raw after a year in OVW ... He and Garrison Cade scored a non-title win over tag champs La Resistance on July 14, 2003, but that's the closest they would come to the title ... Was sent to Smackdown through the draft lottery ... Theodore Long called Jindrak "the most talented white boy I've ever seen" ... Maybe now that his former manager is Smackdown GM, he'll get a decent push.

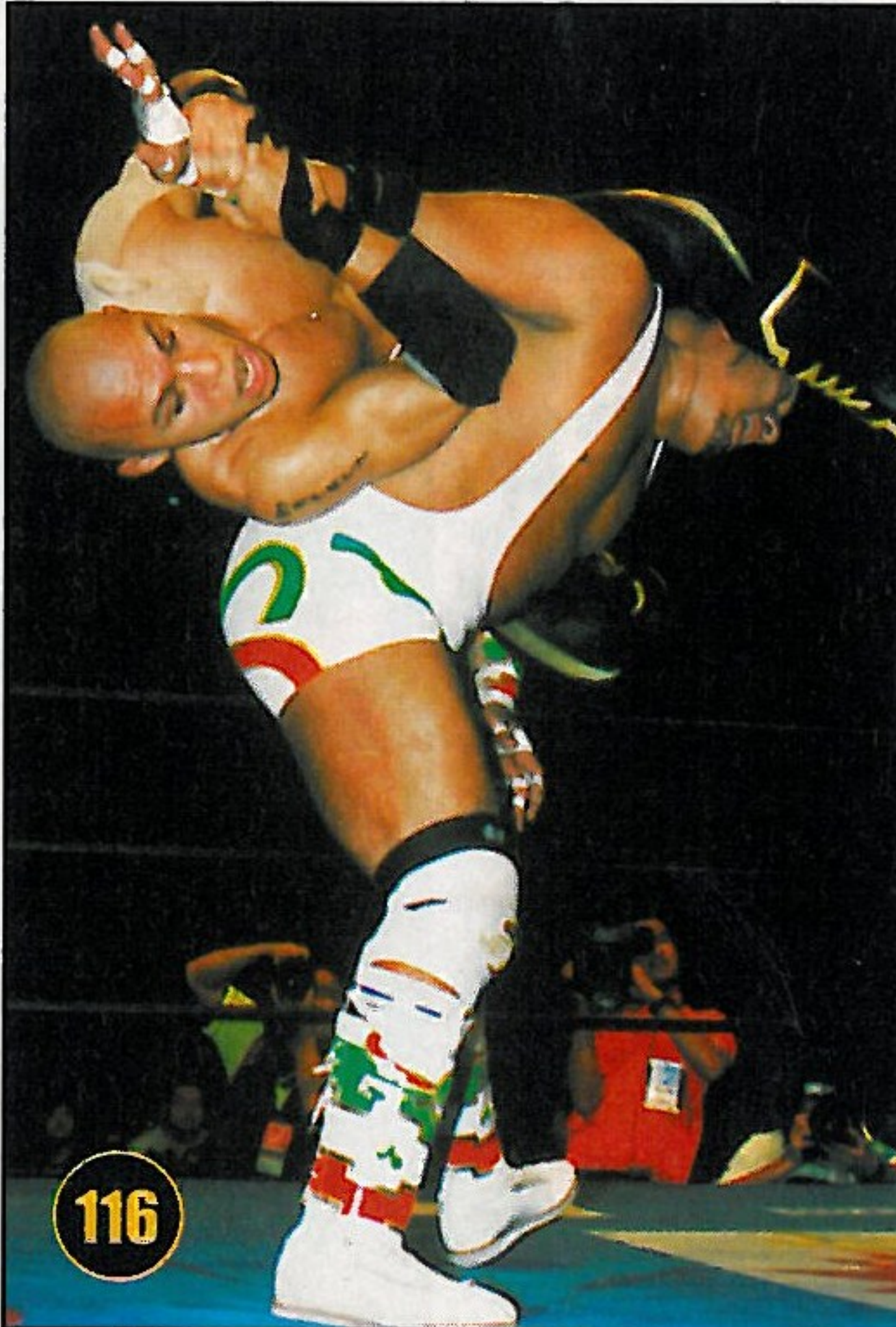
**113 JERRY LYNN** (5'7", 224, 16, 29) The former ECW champ has been the guiding light of Team

NWA ... One of the most respected competitors on the indy circuit, Lynn is capable of wrestling just about every style imaginable ... His rivalry with Rob Van Dam may have been the best feud in ECW history ... His veteran presence helped the X division establish credibility ... Perhaps the best all-around wrestler in TNA.

**114 CHUCK PALUMBO** (6'2", 256, 4, 72) Was mired in obscurity as part of The Full-Blooded Italians after his headline-grabbing run as tag partner and "life partner" of Billy Gun ... Has since been dealt to Raw, but he's not getting anywhere there, either ... Move from prominence to invisibility also happened in WCW, where he held the tag title with both Sean O'Haire and Shawn Stasiak, then vanished ... Actually quite powerful and agile, he often surprises opponents with leapfrogs and high roundhouse kicks.

**115 BLACK WARRIOR** (5'7", 201, 16, NL) High-flying masked man has spent most of his career with EMLL ... Infrequently appears in Japan and the United States ... His tope through the ropes is famous throughout Mexico, as he routinely ends up five rows deep into the audience ... One of EMLL's most promising young wrestlers ... Pet finisher is *nudo lagunero*, a leglock in which he deadlifts his opponents off the mat to increase the pressure on the hold.

**116 LOW-KI** (5'7", 175, 6, 26) The former TNA X champ is one of the most respected, intense competitors in wrestling ... Has spent the majority of his time wrestling for Zero-One in Japan, but is now in NOAH ... Still wrestles often on the U.S. independent scene ... Known for his stiff kicks and tireless work ethic ... Was the first-ever Ring of Honor champion



... Recently returned to ROH after a brief hiatus following the Rob Feinstein scandal ... Ki krusher '99 and Dragon clutch submission are vicious finishers.

**117 JOHNNY STAMBOLI** (6', 245, 5, 100) We might never know how good Stamboli could be without a silly Italian gimmick ... Two-time WCW tag champion (with Big Vito) ... Now serves as the quiet enforcer of The Full-Blooded Italians in Smackdown ... During his WCW days, he showcased a strong array of high-risk moves, but we haven't seen much of that fearlessness since ... Despite the gimmick, one look at his sleek, muscled physique will show he doesn't eat much carb-laden pasta.

**118 KAZ HAYASHI** (5'8", 187, 12, 153) Currently the top dog of All-Japan's junior heavyweight division ... Feuding with former partner Taka Michinoku ... Wrestled in Mexico and the Japanese independents early in his career ... Honed his skills in the WCW cruiserweight division and as a WWE developmental wrestler ... Made a few appearances in the U.S. this year ... Finisher is a Dragon suplex floated over into a Crippler crossface.

**119 CHASE STEVENS** (6', 220, 2, NL) Making waves as one-half of The Naturals in TNA ... He and Andy Douglas upset America's Most Wanted for the NWA tag title this summer ... Trained by Tracey Smothers ... Career got a good boost when The Naturals signed Jeff Jarrett's loyalty oath ... Proved surprisingly successful in a feud with AMW ... Injured James Storm's shoulder, putting him out of action for several weeks ... Their Natural disaster finisher has been both flashy and effective.

**120 CHAVO GUERRERO SR.** (5'11", 229, 32, NL) The 55-year-old Chavo Classic is one of the most unlikely cruiserweight champions ever ... Inadvertently won the title in a three-way pitting him against his son, Chavo Jr., and Spike Dudley ... Dropped the belt to Rey Misterio Jr. and was released by WWE after no-showing several events ... Rumored to have had some interest in joining TNA after being fired by WWE ... Still has a smooth moonsault ... Held the NWA Americas title an incredible 15 times during the 1970s.

**121 OCTAGON** (5'7", 198, 15, 185) A true icon of Lucha Libre ... A variation of his famed black costume is worn by Pentagon, his evil counterpart ... A veteran *tecnico* with AAA, he remains one of the biggest draws in Mexico ... Often joins Mascara Sagrada ... The duo is so popular that their minis, Octagoncito and Mascarita Sagrada, are tag partners as well ... Favorite submission hold is the ground octopus hold, which he often applies from a side Russian legsweep.



**122 SONNY SIAKI** (5'10", 242, 5, 95) Poor Sonny just never gets respect ... Was jilted by his valet, Trinity ... Now finds himself aligned with Desire—Trinity's arch-enemy in TNA ... Winning the X title actually hurt his career ... Is considered to be one of TNA's best all-around athletes ... Siaki was a football standout at East Carolina University ... A competent and well-rounded grappler.

**123 JOHNNY SWINGER** (6', 231, 12, 240) Former NWA tag team champ ... His partnership with Simon Diamond lasted about five years, dating back to their days in ECW ... Niagara Falls, New York, native trained in Toronto alongside Edge, Christian, and Rhyno, but never got the phone call from WWE ... Recently formed an alliance with Trinity, who might rival him in the arrogance department ... Jury is still out on how effective he'll be as a singles competitor.

**124 SCOTTY TOO HOTTY** (6', 203, 15, NL) The secret to his success can be spelled W-O-R-M ... Captured the WWE Smackdown tag title with Rikishi this spring ... The fans just don't take Scotty seriously anymore ... A horribly one-sided loss to Mordecai in Mordecai's TV debut doesn't augur well for Scotty's future, especially since Rikishi's gone ... Briefly held the WWF light heavyweight title, beating the venerable Dean Malenko for that championship.

**125 JUN AKIYAMA** (6', 231, 12, 138) One of the key players in the NOAH promotion ... A former Global Honored Crown champion and tag team champion, Akiyama is starting up a hardcore division in NOAH with a new title belt ... Has one of the most effective front chancery holds in all of wrestling ... This charismatic wrestler ditched his famous all-blue ring outfit a few years back, now tends to wear white and silver to the ring ... Favorite suplex is the exploder.

**126 ANDY DOUGLAS** (6'1", 220, 2, NL) One-half of The Naturals along with Chase Stevens in TNA ... Considered to be the stronger mat wrestler of the duo ... Formerly managed by April Pennington ... Career got a good boost when they signed Jeff Jarrett's loyalty oath ... Determined not only to hold on to the NWA tag title they won from America's Most Wanted, but to humiliate AMW along the way ... One of TNA's most promising young lions.

**127 BLUE PANTHER** (5'6", 211, 26, NL) Ageless mat master is one of Mexico's most revered technicians ... Thick, muscular Luchador still pulls out the occasional tope to the floor, despite his age ... Technical prowess has earned him comparisons to Ric Flair ... Appears on the Mexican independent scene between EMLL appearances ... Makes opponents tap out to his array of unusual holds.

**128 SONJAY DUTT** (5'8", 185, 3, 432) "The Playa From The Himalayas" has established himself as a prime time playa in the X division ... Won the X Triple Chance Tournament in 2003 ... Was an inaugural member of Team NWA ... First made a name for himself in CZW, where he feuded with Ruckus and Chris Cash ... Known for his crisp execution and high-flying skills ... His signature moves are the Sonjay star press and the Phoenix splash.

**129 SHANNON MOORE** (5'9", 175, 9, 91) The former "Mattitude" follower stayed behind on Smackdown when Matt Hardy moved to Raw ... Unfortunately for him, Paul Heyman wanted Moore to prove himself against the super heavyweights, resulting in a series of losses to Matt Morgan and Brock Lesnar ... Did snag an upset over A-Train, however ... Competent cruiserweight looking for a chance to shine ... Very popular with the ladies.

**130 MASCARA SAGRADA** (5'9", 202, 20, 147) Long-time AAA *tecnico* typically teams with Octagon ... Has wrestled through three decades, but it's been rumored that the man currently wearing the mask is not the original ... Contests claims from Mascara Sacra that he is an impostor, but both men wear identical masks and white outfits ... Has a spectacular tope con hilo that he executes by flipping over the ringpost to the floor ... One of Mexico's most enduring characters.

**131 AL SNOW** (6', 234, 21, NL) Formed a tag team of sorts with *Heat* broadcast colleague Jonathan Coachman, but Coach wasn't a great partner ... Lost to Sabu in January on a 3PW card, marking the 10-year anniversary of their first meeting ... Skilled in martial arts, shootfighting, and mat wrestling ... Has proved to be one of WWE's MVPs as a trainer, wrestler, and commentator ... Beat D-Lo Brown for the USA Pro title on June 19 ... A six-time former WWE hardcore champ.

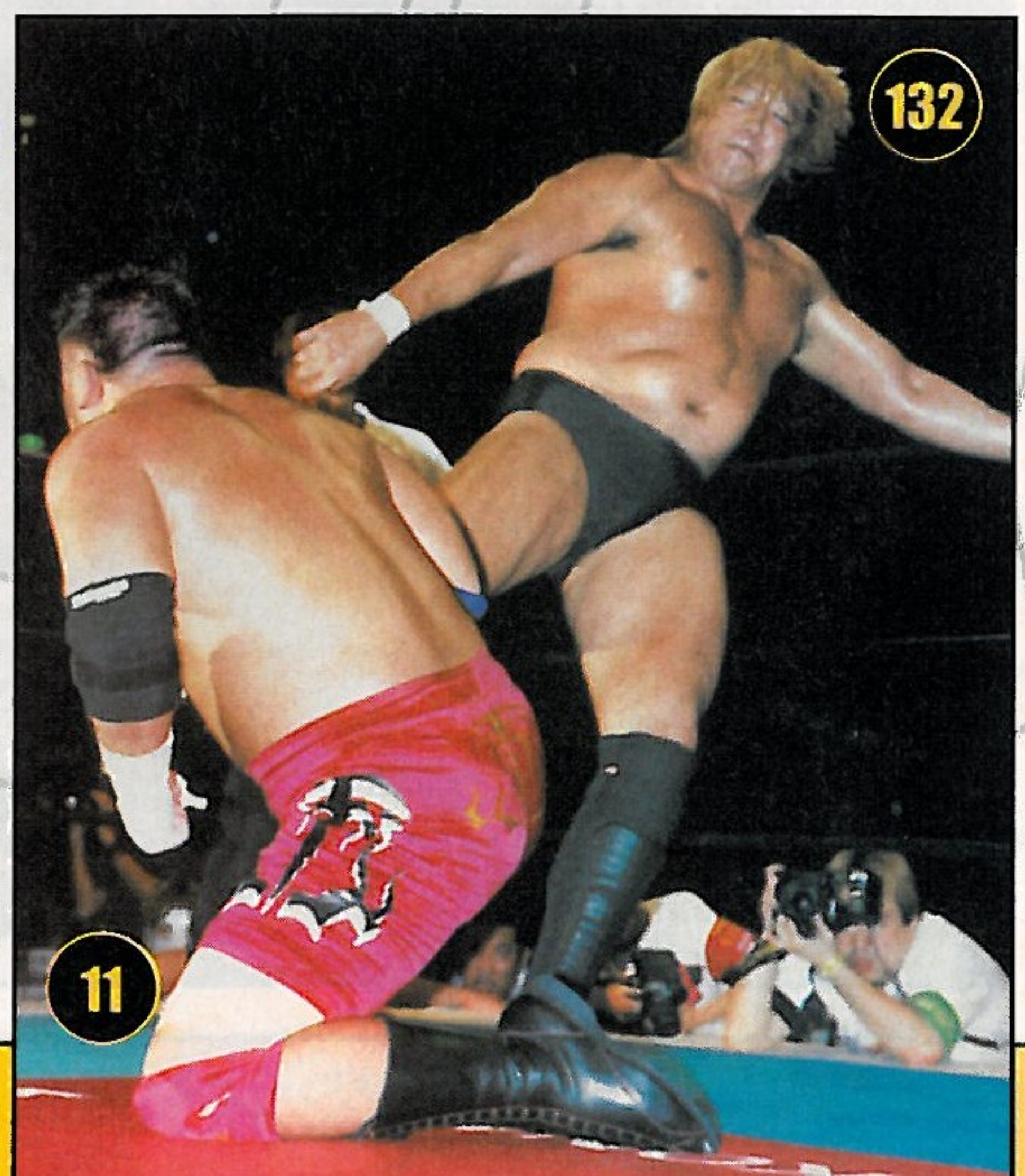
**132 YOSHIHIRO TAKAYAMA** (6'4", 280, 12, 60) Former NOAH star is now a freelancer for companies like New Japan and mixed martial arts groups ... Became a breakout star because *puroresu* fans rallied behind him in lopsided mixed martial arts fights in which he would get beaten senseless ... Also a former IWGP and NWF heavyweight champion ... Suffers from some paralysis in his face ... Has a deadly array of kicks in his arsenal, but likes to finish opponents with his German suplex.

**133 CHRIS CAGE** (6', 215, 2, 216) Half of Adrenaline with Tank Toland ... Known as the "Hit-man" in tribute to his idol, Bret Hart ... Tried out for *Tough Enough 1* but didn't make the cut ... Participated in the 2003 Super 8 Tournament, losing to Brian "Spanky" Kendrick in round one ... Trained by Danny Davis and Nick "Eugene" Dinsmore ... Uses the neckbreaker as his finisher ... One of the most popular competitors in OWW.

**134 ULTIMO DRAGON** (5'8", 186, 19, 47) Botched elbow surgery was thought to have ended this high-flyer's career years ago ... Made a recovery and returned in late-2002 ... Founder and head trainer of the Toryumon group, which promotes in both Mexico and Japan ... Stay with the WWE was less than remarkable ... Made his first appearance in New Japan's Best of the Super Junior this year ... A former IWGP junior, WCW cruiserweight, and J-Crown champion.

**135 CIMA** (5'11", 202, 7, 110) The top star of the Toryumon group is a sensation with fans both in Mexico and Japan ... Won the El Numero Uno in 2003 ... Leads the Crazy MAX contingent, which consists of Judo Suwa, Sumo Fuji, and Taru ... Feuds with The Italian Connection ... Has appeared with Michinoku Pro and New Japan in the past ... Impact finisher is called *schwein*, but he is best known for the frog splash he dubs the mad splash.

**136 MARK MAGNUS** (6'2", 231, 2, 214) Syracuse, New York, native reportedly has an IQ of 148 ... Trained by Nick Dinsmore at the OWW Training Center ... Has feuded with Johnny Jeter, Matt Morgan, Seth Skyfire, and Jim Cornette ... His finishing move is called the finishing touch ... Despite his lack of experience, Magnus is adept at pacing matches and conserving energy ... Abruptly left OWW when partner-in-crime Nikita dropped a loser-leaves-OWW match.

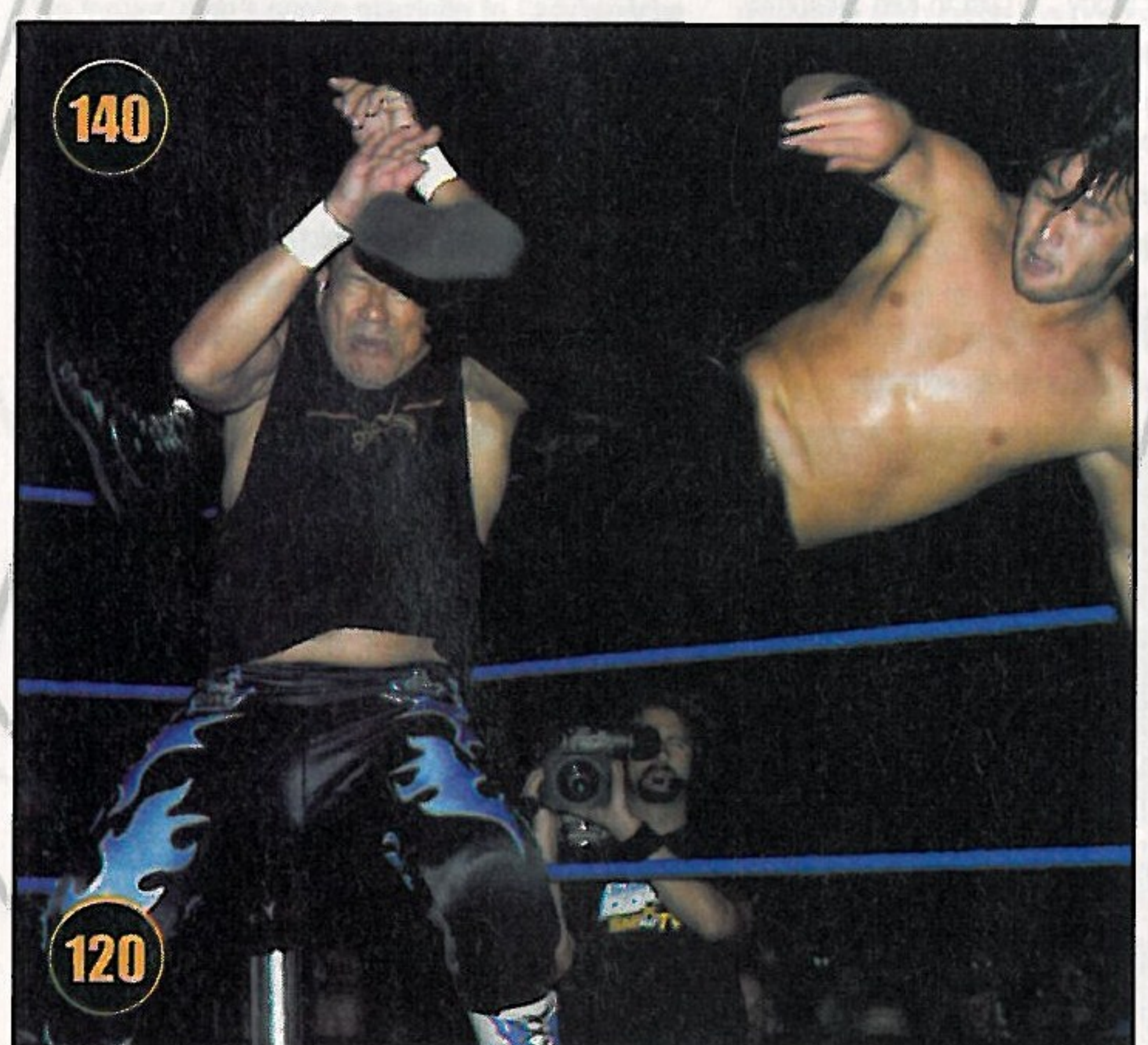


**137 ORLANDO JORDAN** (6'4", 250, 6, 175) Trained by Rocky Johnson, The Rock's father and Bonebreakers wrestling school in Maryland ... Competed in OWW briefly and was signed to a WWE developmental deal ... Was a member of the U.S. Forest Service, battling forest fires ... Mistakenly diagnosed with autism as a child ... Regularly appears on *Velocity*, but doesn't get too many wins.

**138 SHO FUNAKI** (5'8", 192, 13, 116) Smackdown's "*Numbah One Announc-ah*" is a perpetual cruiserweight contender ... You may laugh his won-loss record, but just take a look at the quality of opposition he faces on a nightly basis ... Participated in the cruiserweight open at *WrestleMania* ... Trained by Animal Hamaguchi and Yoshiaki Fujiwara ... Tornado DDT finisher is no laughing matter ... Has held the WWE hardcore and TWA heavyweight titles.

**139 KOJI KANEMOTO** (5'10", 200, 14, 24) New Japan's "junior ace" has held both the IWGP junior heavyweight singles and tag title ... Teamed with Jushin Liger to invade the rival NOAH promotion ... Started his career as the third incarnation of Tiger Mask ... Likes to use flying moves like the moon-sault press and the twisting senton from the middle rope ... Honors his days under the Tiger Mask mantle by using the Tiger suplex as a finisher.

**140 AKIO** (5'9", 185, 5, NL) The former Jimmy Yang joined Smackdown as hired muscle for then-cruiserweight champion Tajiri ... Trained by Paul Orndorff ... Briefly held the WCW hardcore title ... Previously signed to a WWE developmental deal when WWE bought WCW and was sent to the Heartland Wrestling Association ... Has also appeared in All-Japan and TNA.



**141 TANK TOLAND** (5'8", 225, 4, NL) One-half of Adrenaline (with Chris Cage) in OWW ... The powerhouse replaced the injured Nova on the team, which Nova didn't appreciate ... Two-time OWW Southern tag team champion ... Trained at Larry Sharpe's Monster Factory before relocating from New Jersey to Louisville ... Ridiculously jacked ... Often uses a spinning Polish hammer variation called the turret as his finisher ... Has feuded with The Disciples of Synn and The Jersey Crew.

**142 MAVEN** (6'2", 210, 3, 88) A lot of the luster has worn off the first *Tough Enough* winner ... Frequent leaves of absence for injuries and personal reasons have killed his momentum ... Nearly beat Ric Flair on the October 20, 2003, *Raw* telecast, but Flair came out with the win ... Evolution enjoyed hurting Maven, with Batista pounding him at *Armageddon* ... Strong work ethic and good attitude should help him survive.

**143 MITSUNARU MISAWA** (6'1", 238, 24, 82) Founder and top star of the NOAH group made his name in All-Japan Pro Wrestling ... First rose to stardom as the second incarnation of the popular Tiger Mask character ... The definitive A former Triple Crown champion and Global Honored Crown champ ... Feared for his trademark elbow strike ... Inventor of the emerald erosion, his signature move ... Hasn't deviated from his familiar green and white tights design.

**144 NEGRO CASAS** (5'7", 180, 25, 197) He popped up in the United States a few times in the last year, drawing huge crowds in California, Georgia, and Oregon of all places ... EMLL *tecnico* found himself in hot water with the company brass last year after punching out announcer Leobardo Magadan ... Feud with Ultimo Dragon (then known as Yoshihiro Asai) helped popularize the Lucha style overseas ... Trade-mark move is called *la casita*, a *la magistral* cradle.

**145 SAKODA** (6', 240, 5, 262) Tokyo, Japan, native owes a debt of gratitude to Quentin Tarantino. The movie *Kill Bill* reportedly gave Tajiri the idea of bringing Sakoda and Akio onboard as his Yakuza-styled thugs ... Squat, stocky build gives him a low center of gravity and makes him hard to take him off his feet ... Formerly competed in Ultimate Pro Wrestling ... Has also competed in Japan's Zero-One.

**146 SABU** (6', 220, 14, 135) The homicidal, genocidal madman is plying his trade in TNA ... Assisted Raven in his feud with Jim Mitchell and The Gathering ... Didn't fare too well in a brief feud with Monty Brown ... You can't blame him for slowing down a few steps—just try to imagine the punishment his body has taken over the years ... Like hardcore legend Terry Funk, Sabu is still crazy ... Could be a title contender if he could find his focus.

**147 B.G. JAMES** (6'2", 261, 11, 151) The former Road Dogg is now a member of 3 Live Kru, along with Konnan and Ron Killings ... Still a tag team specialist, but seems more interested in clowning around than chasing titles ... He and Killings briefly held the NWA tag title ... Veteran of the 1991 Gulf War ... A former WWE Intercontinental champ who is best remembered for his stint in DeGeneration X.

**148 MATT STRYKER** (5'11", 210, 6, 184) Unibrowed Stryker not to be confused with his namesake in the Northeast indies ... Beat John Walters for the number-one contender trophy in ROH ... Lost to A.J. Styles in the tournament for the pure wrestling title but remains a top contender to that championship ... Trained by Les Thatcher ... Finishers include the Stryker driver and Stryker lock ... Four-time HWA heavyweight champion and five-time HWA cruiserweight champion.

**149 JULIO DINERO** (6'2", 235, 11, 189) It's been a weird year for Dinero, who went from having a prominent role in TNA back to the indies seemingly overnight ... That's not a reflection of Dinero's talent—it's just that he can't seem to catch a break ... Teamed with C.M. Punk in TNA as part of The Gathering ... Had a blood feud with Raven in TNA ... Could be a breakthrough talent if he could find his footing somewhere.

**150 JON HEIDENREICH** (6'7", 320, 3, 210) We're still not sure who Little Johnny is, and we're afraid to ask ... Big man was a member of the 1992 Super Bowl champ Washington Redskins ... Teamed with Nathan Jones to win the NWA Intercontinental tag title in 2002 ... Known as Big Bad John in OWW, where he was part of Doug Basham's Revolution ... Now managed by Paul Heyman with Smackdown.

**151 SHARK BOY** (5'10", 180, 7, 107) The masked man from "20,000 leagues under the sea" still has schools of fans ... Despite his goofy gimmick, he's actually quite talented and has impressive aerial skills ... Continues to appear in TNA, but rarely gets an opportunity to showcase his skills ... Has wrestled several dark matches for WWE ... One of the hardest-working wrestlers on the indy circuit, Shark Boy is always in demand.



**152 NOVA** (5'10", 215, 10, 98) Former OVW champion has found his roots as leader of The Jersey Crew ... Despite his background in Mexican, Japanese, and European styles, Nova has proved to be a surprisingly effective brawler ... Managed by the big-haired Trudy DeNucci ... First won fame as the goofy Super Nova in ECW ... One of wrestling's most innovative wrestlers, he also trains young talent in OVW.

**153 BLACK TIGER** (5'11", 215, 19, 96) Masked *rudo* of EMLL is the third version, an evil nemesis of the ever-popular Tiger Mask character ... Sometimes wrestles as a *technico* ... Wrestles for the Mexican independents, often teaming with Dr. Wagner Jr. ... Sometimes emits a green mist from his mouth ... Was warmly received in New Japan Pro Wrestling ... Uses a triple-moonsault press from the canvas, first tumbuckle, and second rope to finish off opponents.

**154 CHAD COLLYER** (5'8", 218, 6, 192) Last year we noted that Collyer "always seems to be on the cusp of a breakthrough, but fate always interferes" ... Long-awaited breakthrough finally happened this year when Jeff Jarrett recruited him for his Elite Guard in TNA ... Former WWE developmental wrestler feuded with Shannon Moore in the HWA ... Two-time NCAA national amateur finalist and former West Regional champion ... Has scored wins over Rene Dupree, Spanky, and John Walters ... Wrestles extensively in Japan.

**155 COLT CABANA** (6'1", 248, 5, 242) When you hear Barry Manilow's "Copacabana," it only means "Classic" Colt is on his way to the ring ... One-third of The Second City Saints with C.M. Punk and Ace Steel in ROH ... Recently made his debut in Canada and Mexico ... Missed a few shows due to two separated shoulders ... Gets upset when Charleston Chews get too chewy ... Despite his goofy persona, Colt is a rugged, formidable opponent with deceptive strength.

**156 JOEY MATTHEWS** (5'9", 185, 8, 183) Fairfax, Virginia, native turned pro at age 16 and wrestled for WWE, WCW, and ECW by age 21 ... Was under a WWE developmental contract at one time and was sent to Memphis for further training before being released ... Has also competed for TNA and is a former NWA tag team champion ... Pet finisher is the super Frankenstein ... Currently competing in 3PW, OVW, and regularly wrestling WWE dark matches.

**157 SUPER DELFIN** (5'9", 205, 15, 121) The head of Osaka Pro, the company he founded after leaving Michinoku Pro ... Once thought of as a comedy act, but Delfin got serious after suffering a harrowing back injury in 1997 ... Holds the Osaka Pro championship ... Feuds with the monstrous Big Boss Magma as well as GAMMA ... Has a great uppercut-style palm blow

... Favorite finishing combo is the swinging DDT followed by his patented Delfin clutch.

**158 HOTSTUFF HERNANDEZ** (6'6", 295, 6, 206) The most imposing physical specimen in Jeff Jarrett's Elite Guard, ... Trained by Tugboat Taylor, but can do things that the Tugboat wouldn't dare try ... While his primary offense consists of power moves, he also has surprisingly graceful aerial skills ... Used his resemblance to Kurt Angle as part of a gimmick in All-Japan Pro Wrestling ... Actually feuded with teammate Onyx in 2003, but seems to have put that behind him.

**159 RODNEY MACK** (6'2", 240, 6, 85) The creator of the "White Boy Challenge" returned to OVW after being sidelined from WWE with an injury ... Trained by Junkyard Dog ... Adopted a rough style when he joined WWE last year ... Mack was a Louisiana state wrestling champion in the heavyweight division in high school and was an All-American in wrestling and football in college ... Once held the OVW Southern tag title with Shelton Benjamin ... Married to Jazz.

**160 JOHNNY NITRO** (6'1", 201, 1, NL) Eric Bischoff's apprentice is back in OVW after losing to Eugene ... He was one of the winners of *Tough Enough III* ... Teamed with fellow *TE III* winner Matt Cappotelli for a while in OVW ... Formerly known as Johnny Spade and Johnny Blaze ... Pet finisher is a standing shooting star press, but he didn't get many chances to use that in WWE ... Now aligned with Melina Perez in a feud with Cappotelli.

**161 PREDATOR** (6'6", 307, 6, 150) Former WWE developmental talent currently competes in Ultimate Pro Wrestling and Zero-One ... Wild mane, plain black trunks, and brawling style have drawn comparisons to the legendary Bruiser Brody ... Lost to Ken Shamrock in a wild encounter at UPW's anniversary card this year ... A former NCAA champion, his only collegiate loss was to a young Kurt Angle ... Primary finishers are the spin doctor and the fisherman buster ... Could make a major impact in TNA someday.

**162 DR. WAGNER JR.** (5'9", 216, 18, 55) Veteran EMLL *rudo* has reduced his schedule ... Won

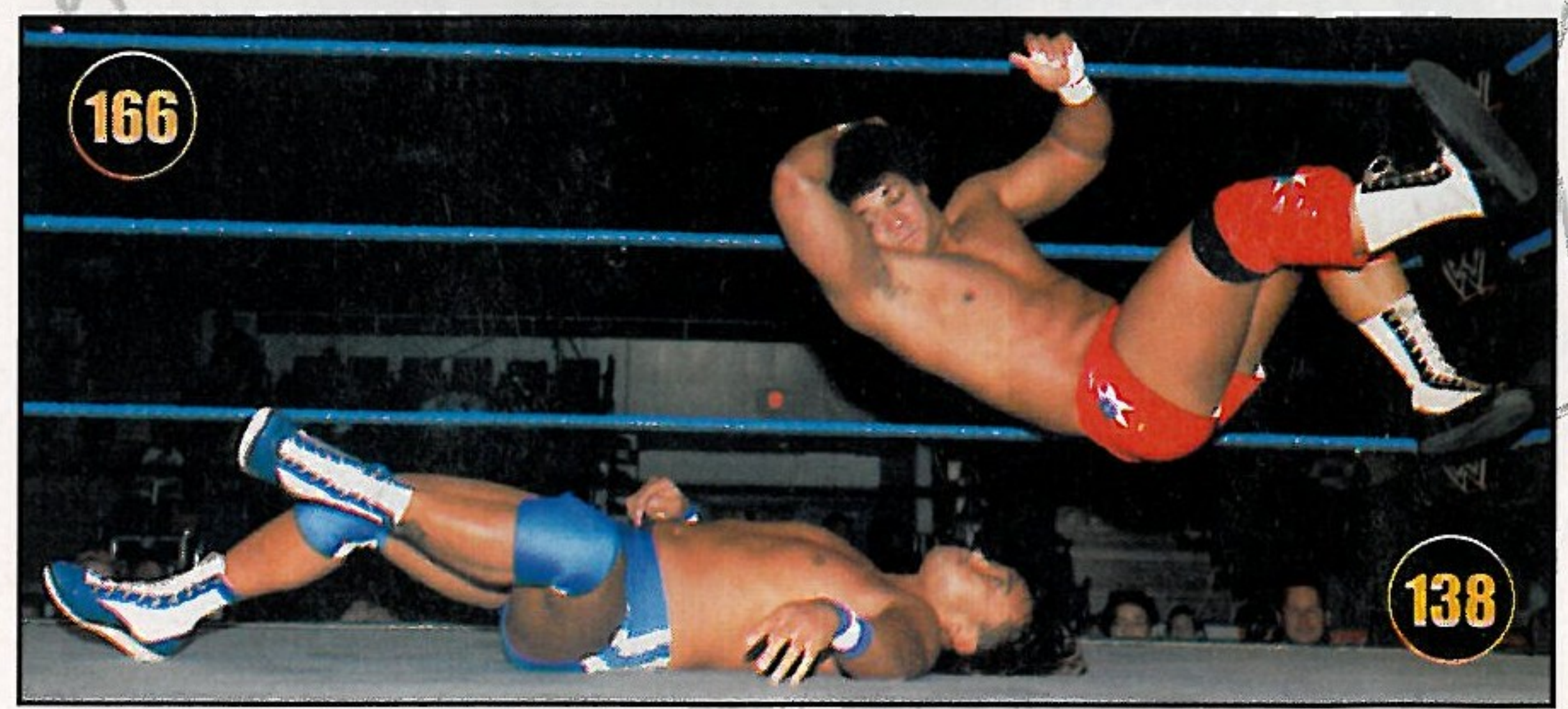
the annual Grand Prix Tournament at Arena Mexico last summer by defeating Ultimo Dragon ... Had a classic match with Osamu Nishimura for EMLL that got elicited cheers from the fans ... Like many of Mexico's evil medics, Wagner is usually decked out in his all-white mask and singlet ... Pet submission hold is the Wagnerlock, a rolling ground octopus hold.

**163 BOBBY RUDE** (6', 230, 6, 198) Brings both power and experience to Team Canada ... Has competed in several WWE dark matches in Canada ... Became the first Canadian to compete in the ECWA Super 8 Tournament in 2002 ... Trained by Val Venis and Shane Sewell ... Teamed with Petey Williams to score a non-title win over then-NWA tag champs America's Most Wanted in June 2004 ... Rude has competed throughout North America, from the Canadian Maritimes to Puerto Rico.

**164 KONNAN** (5'10", 220, 16, 114) The veteran leader of 3 Live Kru has cut back on his ring schedule and switched his focus to mentoring Ron Killings ... A legendary figure in Mexico and a former WCW U.S. champion, as well as a member of the NWO ... Possesses a strong blend of raw power, aerial ability, and technical expertise ... Remains closely tied to the Lucha Libre scene, even after burning his bridges with several Mexican promoters.

**165 THE AMAZING RED** (5'6", 147, 4, 42) The former ECWA heavyweight champion could yet be the Rey Misterio Jr. of the 21st century ... Compensates for his lack of size with some of the most innovative attacks in the sport ... Incredibly resilient, Red is able to absorb an ungodly amount of punishment ... Credited with being one of the men who popularized TNA's X division ... Returned to TNA this spring, but came up short against Frankie Kazarian.

**166 CARLY COLON** (6', 220, 4, 115) WWE developmental talent is the son of Puerto Rican legend Carlos Colon ... Has held the WWC universal title several times already, just like Daddy ... Feuded extensively with Sabu in Puerto Rico, which was a major learning experience ... Carly is more well-rounded than his father, with a streamlined physique and impressive aerial skills ... Is managed by Kenny Bolin in OVW.



**167 MANABU NAKANISHI** (6'1", 266, 9, 159) New Japan heavyweight star isn't as popular as he was a few years back ... Held the IWGP tag title twice ... Master of the torture rack ... Trained briefly under Karl Gotch in Florida ... Finally finding consistent singles success, if not stardom, in New Japan ... WCW fans might remember his brief stint as Kurasawa here in the States, when he broke Road Warrior Hawk's arm.



**168 AARON STEVENS** (6'4", 237, 6, 243) Also known as Aaron Idol, he is part of OVW's Jersey Crew with Nova and Inferno ... Feuded with John Walters prior to joining OVW ... Has held the Chaotic Wrestling heavyweight and tag titles and the OVW Southern tag title ... Disturbs a lot of male fans with his gluteus flexes from the ring apron ... Has wrestled several dark matches for WWE ... Has the size and presence that WWE looks for in a wrestler.

**169 ELECTRO SHOCK** (5'11", 205, 7, 200) This former *rudo*'s public marriage to Lady Apache made him a popular favorite among fans ... Gave up his affiliation with Los Vipers and now teams with the *technicos* ... Intense rivalry with Chessman has included some mixed tag matches ... Represented Mexico in a mixed martial arts competition in Japan last year, where he was destroyed by Hikaru Sato ... Held the Mexican title for a short stint.

**170 MATT CAPPOTELLI** (6', 218, 1, NL) Getting slaughtered by Bob Holly might have been the best thing ever to happen to Cappotelli ... Won *Tough Enough III* to land a WWE developmental deal ... Moved to OVW, where he frequently teamed with fellow *TE* winner John Hennigan at first ... Reprised his feud with Holly in OVW, getting the best of the veteran ... Perhaps the top prospect of all the *Tough Enough* contenders.

**171 DOUG WILLIAMS** (6'1", 233, 8, 113) Frequently wrestles in Ring of Honor and Pro Wrestling NOAH, as well as his native England ... Recently defeated Alex Shelley to win the ROH Pure Wrestling title ... His no-nonsense style has earned him the

respect of the ROH fans ... Has held several titles in England ... Calls his finisher the chaos theory, a rolling reverse prawn hold-turned-German suplex.

**172 DRAGON KID** (5'6", 165, 6, 186) Ultimo Dragon's namesake won this year's El Numero Uno Tournament ... Splits his time between Mexico and Japan, the two countries where the Toryumon is most

popular ... Famed for two daring variations of the huracanrana ... Dragon ray is a blind rana from the turnbuckles, and his Dragonrana is a 450 splash that he turns into a huracanrana ... Likes to make opponents tap out to *el cristo*, a unique submission hold.

**173 DAMIEN 666** (5'9", 210, 12, 211) Former Japanese independent star is one-half of Mexico's Most Wanted with Halloween ... They usually form a trio known as La Familia with Rey Misterio Sr. or Nicho El Millonario ... Popular favorite of the Tijuana independent wars, although he is aligned with the *rudas* ... Has wrestled in XPW, XLUM, WCW, EMLL, and Puerto Rico ... Once wrestled under a mask as UltraMan in Mexico.

**174 HALLOWEEN** (5'9", 212, 12, NL) Along with Damien 666, forms the red-hot Mexico's Most Wanted tandem ... Lost his trademark orange pumpkin mask years ago, but sometimes paints his face with a similar design ... Held the XPW and XLUM tag titles ... Forms La Familia with Damien, Rey Misterio Sr., and Nicho ... Wrestles for both EMLL and the Mexican independents ... Splits his time between Mexico and the United States, even appearing with TNA on occasion.

**175 GLENN GILBERTI** (6', 234, 13, 92) Leave it to the former Disco Inferno to mess up a good thing ... Managed then-tag champs Johnny Swinger and Simon Diamond, but ended up costing them the belts and driving a wedge between them ... Also cast his lot with David Young, who immediately went on a winless streak ... The former leader of Sports Entertainment Xtreme ... Has held the WCW tag team, cruiserweight, and TV titles.

**176 BRENT ALBRIGHT** (6', 230, 2, NL) The former Slater Vain is currently competing in OVW under his given name ... Trained by Michael Modest ... Has held the SRPW and OCW heavyweight titles and the OPW and OCW tag titles in his home state of Oklahoma ... Has competed in several WWE dark matches and has appeared on WWE TV in several uncredited spots ... Signed a WWE developmental deal in December 2003 ... Teams with Chris Masters as The Troubleshooters.

**177 TAKA MICHINOKU** (5'7", 172, 13, 174) One of All-Japan Pro Wrestling's top lightweights, he is also the owner of the Japan-based Kaientai Dojo company ... Former WWE light heavyweight champion ... High-flyer popularized the spaceman plancha ... Feuding with Kaz Hayashi—the two were partners in the original Kaientai ... Inventor of the move known as the Michinoku driver in the States; in Japan its called Michinoku driver II ... Now finishes off opponents with his crossface submission.

**178 PETEY WILLIAMS** (5'7", 179, 1, NL) Canadian rookie's flip piledriver (known as the Canadian destroyer) is one of the most breathtaking moves in all of wrestling ... Trained by Team Canada manager Scott D'Amore at the Can-Am Wrestling School ... Aggressive and sound, both technically and aerially ... Competed in Michigan and Ohio prior to competing in TNA ... Native of Windsor, Ontario.

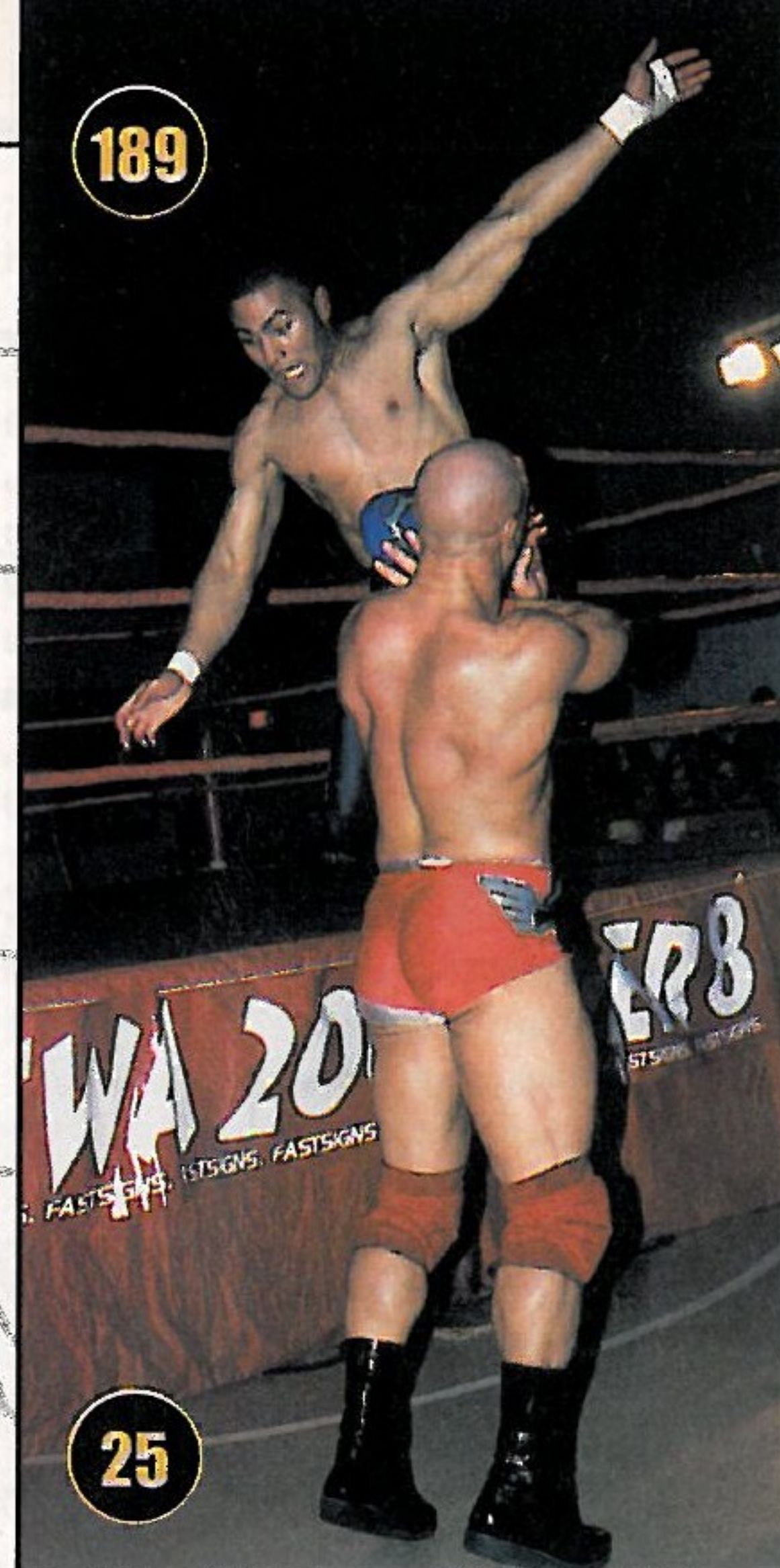
**179 EKMO FATU** (6'5", 356, 6, 128) Formerly known as Jamal in Three Minute Warning ... Was released by WWE in July 2003 ... Made an immediate impact in Japan, where he teamed with Justin Credible and Jerry Tuite ... Briefly appeared in TNA, where he tagged with Sonny Siaki ... Actually got a shot at the All-Japan Triple Crown ... Possesses a solid combination of raw power and aerial prowess.

**180 SHANE DOUGLAS** (6'1", 240, 18, 166) "The Franchise" spent most of the year grooming Michael Shane ... Former ECW and XPW champ made his debut in TNA in June 2003 ... Immediately started a feud with Raven ... Beat Raven in a hair vs. hair match ... One of the best promo men in the business ... Recently took a step toward retirement by becoming a road agent for TNA ... He still wrestles occasionally on the indy circuit.

**181 ERIC YOUNG** (6', 218, 4, NL) Border City and Neo Spirit Pro alumnus was recruited for Team Canada by Scott D'Amore ... A veteran of the Ontario independent scene, he ran Wrestleplex, a wrestling school in Toronto ... Had an epic feud with Derek Wyld in Niagara Falls ... His experience—and proficiency—in ladder matches has helped Team Canada dominate X Cup bouts in TNA.



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**182 TAKEHIRO MURAHAMA** (5'9", 207, 5, 101) Relative youngster captured the Osaka Pro tag title last year from Infinity with new partner Jushin Liger ... Skilled kickboxer has made a quick transition to the world of pro wrestling ... Lost in the finals of the 2004 Super J Cup to NOAH's Naomichi Marufuji ... Has wrestled occasionally for New Japan ... Gifted submission specialist ... Violent brainbuster finisher is as devastating as they come.

**183 JOHNNY DEVINE** (5'10", 205, 7, NL) Member of Team Canada trained under Stu Hart in the Hart Family Dungeon and under "Bad News" Allen Coage ... Winnipeg native boasts a win over Sabu as one of his top career highlights ... Served three years in the Canadian military before enrolling in the Hart Dungeon ... Impressed Tommy Dreamer and Paul Heyman at a ECW tryout, but was unwilling to relocate at that time ... Signature moves include the Devine intervention, tarantula DDT, and love gun moonsault.

**184 HEAVY METAL** (5'7", 181, 16, 109) AAA veteran has a consistent performer since the 1990s ... Son of legendary referee Pepe Casas, who often gets embroiled in his son's feuds ... Wears an odd combination of checkered pants and racing goggles to the ring, sometimes even wearing the goggles to wrestle ... Appeared in NWA-TNA with Team Mexico.

**185 CHRIS MASTERS** (6'5", 270, 2, NL) Former Mr. California and runner-up in the Mr. Olympia competition ... Santa Monica, California, native also played water polo in high school, which helped him develop endurance and stamina ... At just 21 years of age, this talented OVW competitor has a very bright future ahead of him ... A graduate of the OVW Training Center, Masters is looking for that elusive WWE developmental deal ... Is one-half of The Troubleshooters with Brent Albright.

**186 KEVIN NORTHCUTT** (6'6", 275, 10, 334) The former NWA tag team champ is proud to be one of Jeff Jarrett's hired guns ... Proud member of Red Shirt Security for much of the past year ... Was briefly managed by Percy Pringle (Paul Bearer) in Louisiana's All Access Wrestling ... Though TNA fans best know him as a glorified bodyguard, Northcutt is a former NWA National, NWA Southern tag, and New South Wrestling Alliance champion ... Never underestimate his raw strength.

**187 NEW JACK** (6', 225, 12, 227) Former ECW tag champ will do anything to injure an opponent ... One of wrestling's top brawlers ... Best known for teaming with Mustafa Saed as The Gangstas in SMW and ECW ... Formed an unlikely—but successful—

team with Shark Boy last year in TNA ... Regularly competes in CZW and NWA Wildside ... Always a target on the indy circuit for the younger wrestlers.

**188 ALEBRIJE** (5'10", 210, 5, 152) Heavyweight *technico* of AAA fame is a talented aerial wrestler that isn't afraid to brawl ... Mascot Cuije is an identical, mini version of Alebrije, but he doesn't compete in the minis division ... Wears a bright colored monster costume, complete with wings and claws ... Especially popular with kids ... He and Cuije are still feuding with Luchador Monster and his tiny sidekick, Chucky ... One of Lucha Libre's most overlooked sensations.

**189 ROCKY ROMERO** (5'7", 175, 6, NL) Havana, Cuba, native teams with Ricky Reyes as The Havana Pit Bulls ... Competed in the 2004 ECWA Super 8 ... Has wrestled mostly on the California indy scene, but also has toured New Japan, CMLL, and AAA ... Style is patterned after Antonio Inoki's strong style ... Actually received some training from Inoki and Negro Casas ... Finishers include the jumping armbar and jumping knee kick.

**190 SCOOT ANDREWS** (5'11", 222, 11, 140) "Black Nature Boy" recently appeared on *WWE Velocity*, losing to Johnny Stamboli ... Trained by Larry Hamilton and Hack Myers ... A veteran of the Florida independent scene, Andrews made his debut in Portland Wrestling in May ... A former ECWA champion and IPW light heavyweight champion ... Calls his inverted piledriver finisher the force of nature ... Of course, with a nickname like "Nature Boy," using the figure-four is a no-brainer.

**191 GREAT SASUKE** (5'8", 180, 14, 133) Founder and top star of Michinoku Pro now splits his time between wrestling and politics ... Won the Tohoku junior title from Mexican legend Atlantis ... Lucha-influenced high-flyer ... Was the first man to hold the eight unified J-Crown titles ... Has extensive international experience and had brief stints in both the WWE and ECW ... Inventor of the swanton bomb ... Favorite finishers include the royal octopus hold and the thunder fire bomb.

**192 HOMICIDE** (6'4", 265, 13, 235) Finally getting respect after years of obscurity ... One of the top wrestlers in Ring of Honor ... Competes in several promotions across the U.S., including Combat Zone Wrestling, IWA Mid-South, and World-1 ... Has also competed in Japan for Big Japan and, more recently, Zero One ... Has trained some of the best wrestlers in the New York City area ... Skilled brawler whose hybrid style works well for him in Japan, Europe, and America.

**193 BISON SMITH** (6'3", 277, 5, 226) Native of Boulder, Colorado, regularly competes in Japan's Pro Wrestling NOAH and in the IWA in Puerto Rico ... Also competes for Pro Wrestling IRON ... Challenged Kenta Kobashi for the GHC title in August 2003 ... Beat Shane to win the IWA heavyweight title ... Has frequently been compared to Vader in terms of both look and style ... Pet moves include the Bisontennial (variation of the Styles clash) and the iron claw.

**194 RICKY REYES** (5'9", 192, 6, NL) Forms The Havana Pit Bulls along with Rocky Romero ... Lost to Mike Kruel in the first round of the 2004 Super 8 Tournament ... His aspiration is to "accomplish a childhood dream of becoming tag team legends like The British Bulldogs" and to win the IWGP tag title ... Has competed in New Japan (where he trained under Antonio Inoki), EMLL, AAA, MLW, and ROH ... Uses the German suplex, brainbuster, and rolling Kimura lock.

**195 JOEL MAXIMO** (5'9", 200, 4, 158) One-half of one of the most in-demand teams on the independent circuit, The S.A.T. ... Has appeared in ROH, TNA, the ECWA, NWA Wildside, Zero-One, and many other promotions ... He and brother Jose are currently chasing the ECWA tag title, which they previously held for more than one year ... Scored the pinfall in a wild six-man TLC match against The Valedictorians and Freak Nasty after executing a moonsault from a 20-foot-high platform in the ECWA.

**196 ACE STEEL** (5'9", 220, 13, 254) This young veteran has finally gained national attention as one third of The Second City Saints in Ring of Honor ... Held the ROH tag straps with C.M. Punk ... Also competes in Pro Wrestling NOAH ... Has quietly built his reputation in the Midwest by winning titles in the AWA, IWA Mid-South, and Steel Domain Wrestling ... Sometimes teams with Colt Cabana, the other member of SCS.

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**197 JOSE MAXIMO** (5'9", 190, 4, 149) The smaller of the two Maximo brothers ... Has appeared in ROH, TNA, the ECWA, and NWA Wildside ... The Maximos once comprised the Spanish Announce Team with cousin The Amazing Red and Brian XL, but these days, they are almost exclusively synonymous with the name ... Spanish fly finisher is a thing of beauty ... Only thing standing in the brothers' way to success is their lack of size.

**198 B.J. WHITMER** (6'1", 228, 5, 218) Teams with Dan Maff to form one of Ring of Honor's most dominant tag teams ... Formerly a member of The Prophecy in ROH, but that group dissolved when Daniels left the promotion ... Was managed by Allison Danger until recently ... He and Maff canned her, and now she wants revenge ... Trained by Les Thatcher ... Has won regional titles in Pro Wrestling Guerrilla, IWA Mid-South, and Heartland Wrestling Association.

**199 JIMMY RAVE** (5'11", 186, 5, 194) NWA Wildside, ROH, and CZW standout is a future star ... Has feuded with Shark Boy, Trent Acid, and Tony Mamaluke ... Lost to B.J. Whitmer in the ROH Field of Honor tournament ... He has held the NWA Wildside junior heavyweight title (twice), the CZW iron man title, the NWA junior heavyweight title (twice), and the HCW hardcore title ... His style heavily influenced by the Japanese style, particularly his variations of the Fujiwara armbar and shining wizard.

**200 FELINO** (5'7", 190, 22, 112) One of the oldest Luchadores on the EMLL roster ... Still the CMLL welterweight champ ... Feud with Juventud Guerrera reminded fans how good this *technico* really is ... Cat-like reflexes help him both on the mat and in the air ... His signature bodysuit has tiger stripes and fur, making him easy to identify ... Still has one of the best plancha suicidas in Mexico—he flies more gracefully than men half his age.

**201 SKAYDE** (5'7", 184, 19, NL) Head trainer at Ultimo Dragon's Toryumon gym in Nuacalpan, Mexico ... Appears all over the Mexico City independent scene and occasionally in Japan and the United States ... Has trained many of Mexico's biggest stars ...

Technical wizard is in a class all by himself ... Inventor of hundreds of holds and moves ... A former IPW/AULL middleweight champion ... Relatively unknown outside of Mexico ... His spinebuster-turned-face crusher is a formidable finisher.

**202 JONNY STORM** (5'6", 177, 5, 129) Native of Essex, England, recently moved to Thailand to help start a new wrestling promotion in that country ... Home promotion is FWA (England), but Storm has appeared in ROH, XPW, TNA, and CZW ... Mixes gritty, mat-based European style with high-flying, Mexican-influenced maneuvers ... Has feuded with Jerry Lynn, Juventud Guerrera, and Jody Fleisch ... Primary finisher is a blind huracanrana from the turnbuckles that ranks among the riskiest moves in all of wrestling.

**203 IKUTO HIDAKA** (5'9", 190, 6, 306) High-flying star of Michinoku Pro is an accomplished singles and tag team wrestler ... Has wrestled in several U.S. promotions, such as World-1, International Wrestling Cartel, Major League Wrestling, and Premier Wrestling Federation ... Has also appeared for Zero-One ... Has a great leaping DDT ... Capable aerialist has a precision dropkick he can execute from any position inside or outside the ring.

**204 DAN MAFF** (6', 245, 4, 260) This tag team specialist now teams with B.J. Whitmer in Ring of Honor ... Formerly one-half of Da Hit Squad, but he has since feuded with former partner Steve Mack ... Has found success as a singles wrestler as well, but he's more suited for tag teams ... Teamed with Christopher Daniels in an unsuccessful shot at the All-Japan tag team champs The Great Muta and Arashi at the ROH/AJPW show in December.

**205 TOM HOWARD** (6'4", 260, 11, 181) Currently competes in UPW and Zero-One ... Teamed with Christopher Daniels to beat Scott Hall and Kevin Nash at UPW's fifth anniversary card in February 2004 ... Has an extensive knowledge of shootfighting ... Has held the NWA Intercontinental tag title with Matt Ghaffari ... Teamed with Steve Corino and Dusty Rhodes in a trios match against Mil Mascaras, Dos Caras, and Sicodelico Jr. in

# 182-211

January 2004 ... Finisher is the special techniques one to 100.

**206 DAVID YOUNG** (6'1", 246, 5, 152) The "Messiah Of The Spinebuster" ... Was supposed to be the enforcer of the Gilberti, Simon Diamond, and Johnny Swinger squad, but his frequent screw-ups helped shatter the team ... Went on a lengthy losing streak in the spring and summer of 2004 ... Losing skid hit a new low when he was pinned by rookie D-Ray 3000 ... Two-time former NWA Wildside champion.

**207 MIKE SHANE** (6'4", 290, 7, 180) Along with identical twin Todd, comprises one of the most powerful teams in wrestling and the dominant team on the Florida independent circuit ... The Shane Twins have held the Jersey All Pro tag title, the NWA Florida tag title, and the IPW tag title ... Have also competed in WWE, TNA, and Japan ... The brothers have also starred in several commercials for Sonny's BBQ in Tampa.

**208 TODD SHANE** (6'4", 290, 7, 177) Always teams with his twin brother, Mike ... The Shane twins have feuded with The Road Warriors and Riki Choshu and Kensuke Sasaki ... Appeared on WWE TV in December 2003, losing to Hurricane and Rosey on *Heat* ... Based in Florida, the brothers have held the NWA Florida and IPW tag titles ... Todd claims he's the good-looking one, but only their mother can easily tell them apart.

**209 JOSH DANIELS** (5'9", 211, 4, NL) Known as "Dynamite" Josh Daniels in the U.S. (due to his resemblance to Dynamite Kid), he is called "The Elvis" in Japan's Zero-One, where he carries a guitar to the ring ... Made his debut in Ring of Honor this year ... Held the PWF tag title with Matt Striker in Pro Wrestling World-1 ... Finishers include the diving headbutt and Dragon suplex.

**210 JASON CROSS** (6', 204, 7, 246) Known for his spectacular Crossfire shooting star legdrop ... Maybe he and Petey Williams can start a support group for wrestlers known solely for their flashy finishers ... A member of Jeff G. Bailey's NWA Elite, Cross is one of the most hated wrestlers in NWA Wildside ... His 2001 feud with A.J. Styles put him in the spotlight ... Has competed in TNA's X division ... Also competed in CZW and ROH ... Also has a devastating brainbuster.

**211 OSAMU NISHIMURA** (6'1", 220, 12, 215) Mat master has been a star with New Japan virtually his entire career ... Sometimes wrestles in Florida for Dory Funk's promotion and in Mexico for EMLL ... In-ring style is a throwback to the mat-based 1970s technical style ... Has rebounded from cancer ... Favors holds like the royal octopus and the abdominal stretch ... Former IWGP tag champ ... Famed for his textbook dropkick and flawless Northern Lights suplex.



**212 REY MISTERIO SR.** (5'9", 213, 25, NL) Stocky, powerful brawler is probably most famous for being the uncle of the WWE's Rey Mysterio Jr. ... Got into a backstage scuffle with El Hijo del Santo this year ... Still feuds with L.A. Park ... Lost his mask years ago ... Tough brawler has a wicked right cross and throws rapid-fire chops ... Competes sporadically in the United States, primarily in Texas and California ... Famed for his German suplex.

**213 TONY JONES** (6'5", 265, 8, 222) Even though he has held several titles all over California, Jones is best known from his appearance in Barry Blaustein's *Beyond The Mat* ... Currently competes in Pro Wrestling IRON, where he teams with Jason Brisbane ... Known as "The Shooter" ... Wrestled Kurt Angle in collegiate competition ... Previously competed in the now-defunct BattlArts promotion in Japan ... Finisher is a belly-to-belly suplex off the top rope that's known as the holy shoot.

**214 JACK EVANS** (5'8", 165, 4, NL) Former Stampede Wrestling and Matrats star is in the midst of a breakout year ... Stunned ROH fans with a breathtaking moonsault with two full rotations to the floor in the first scramble cage match ... Part of the Generation NeXt stable in ROH ... Heavily influenced by Dynamite Kid, The Cobra, and The Great Sasuke ... Also has competed in JAPW, CZW, and TNA ... Finishes foes with his corkscrew 630.

**215 TONY KOZINA** (5'6", 178, 7, 199) Pacific Northwest native is a three-time NWA Canadian junior heavyweight champion ... "Tornado" Tony has appeared on *WWE Velocity* and *Heat* ... Faced Jack Evans in a critically praised bout for the ECCW Pacific Cup in February 2004 ... Scored a huge win over Mexican star Villano IV in Portland ... Recently debuted with Pro Wrestling IRON and ROH ... Hopes to challenge for the NOAH GHC junior heavyweight title soon.

**216 LEX LOVETT** (6'1", 225, 5, 261) Florida mainstay holds pinfall victories over Christopher Daniels, Scoot Andrews, and Michael Shane ... Has wrestled several dark matches for NWA-TNA, but hasn't fared particularly well ... Trained by Steve Keirn and Jimmy Del Ray ... Has also appeared in WWE dark matches, NWA Wildside, NWA Florida, Turnbuckle Championship Wrestling, and the XWF ... Finisher is the Lex buster.

**217 TOKYO MAGNUM** (5'11", 201, 7, 136) Top *rudo* of the Toryumon group ... Charismatic grappler delights female fans with his dancing ... Feud with the Crazy Max stable continue ... Teams with other *rudos* like Genki Horiguchi, K-Ness, and Ryo Saito ... Former Toryumon champ ... Has wrestled all over the

world, including WCW ... Skillful in the air, he calls his graceful shooting star press the AV press ... Finishing move is called the viagra driver.

**218 B-BY** (5'10", 198, 6, NL) Electrifying competitor has been making a name for himself throughout California, Pennsylvania, and Europe ... Won CZW's Best of the Best Tournament in 2003 ... Known as "The New Age Punisher" ... Trained by Christopher Daniels and Tom Howard ... Favorite moves include the brainbuster and shining wizard ... Competed in APW, CZW, and Jersey All Pro ... Emerged as a serious contender to Chris Hero's iron man title in CZW.

**219 NIGEL MCGUINNESS** (6'1", 220, 4, 299) Native of London calls his finisher the guvnor's crummet ... Former Heartland Wrestling Association heavyweight, tag team, and European champion ... Had a bitter feud with former partner Hoss, probably due to the fact that he stole Hoss' girlfriend, Jenelle Sinclair ... Now managed by his bodyguard, Mace Steel ... Emulates Rick Steamboat with his graceful armdrags ... Never without his trusty iron.

**220 JUSTIN CREDIBLE** (6', 225, 12, 213) Former ECW World champ now has more than a decade of experience against wrestling's biggest names ... Took part in last year's Real World Tag League Tournament for All-Japan Pro Wrestling and did quite well ... Credible also held the PWF title in Pro Wrestling World-1 before dropping it to Low-Ki ... Seems to have found his niche as a brawler, and seems right at home in The Carnage Crew in ROH.

**221 SHANE BALLARD** (5'9", 195, 6, 234) Half of the *Slap Shot*-inspired Ballard Brothers tag team, along with identical twin Shannon ... Based out of Vancouver, the brothers have competed all over the West Coast ... Won the UPW tag title for the fifth time at that promotion's fifth anniversary show in February 2004 ... Won the ECCW Pacific Cup Tag Team Tournament ... Has faced Tyson Tomko in WWE dark matches ... Proud to now have his body fat down under six percent.

**222 DUSTY RHODES JR.** (6'5", 248, 15, 35) The artist formerly known as Goldust has shaken off the glitter of the past, redefining himself as the son of a son of a plumber and a legitimately tough competitor ... Appeared in Japan alongside his dad in tag action and as part of Takada's Monsters ... Also saw action in Pro Wrestling World-1 ... Well-known from his WWE and WCW days ... A consummate tag team specialist, but he has garnered much success as a singles competitor as well.

**223 SHANNON BALLARD** (5'9", 220, 6, 238) Teams with identical twin brother Shane ... He's the one wearing the number 23 hockey jersey ... Considered to be the more powerful of the two brothers ... They're five-time UPW tag team champions ... Won the ECCW Pacific Cup Tag Team Tournament ... The Ballards are managed by the lovely Valentina ... Finishing move is the penalty box.

**224 MIKE QUACKENBUSH** (6', 191, 13, 202) Currently holds the International Crown, a collection of six championships from around the globe ... Won the AULL middleweight title twice in the past year, most recently beating Skydye of Toryumon ... Wrestling style is a blend of various international styles ... Has faced Eddie Guerrero, La Parka, and El Hijo del Santo ... Serves as the head trainer of the CHIKARA Wrestle Factory ... Inventor of the Quackendriver and the Lightning lock.

**225 AUSTIN ARIES** (5'9", 202, 3, NL) Surprised a lot of people by making it to the finals of the 2004 Super 8, where he lost to Christopher Daniels ... Now a prime player in Generation NeXt in Ring of Honor ... Widely traveled throughout the Midwest ... Has feuded with Justin Lee and Shawn Daivari ... Trained by Eddie Sharkey, he's a high-flyer with a mean streak ... Finishers includes the 450 splash and tornado.

**226 QUIET STORM** (5'8", 180, 4, 239) Spent several months competing in Michinoku Pro and living in Japan ... This stocky youngster's size is a perfect fit for Japan ... Still competes in the New York area independents, Ring of Honor, and the ECWA on occasion ... A student of the game who shows intensity only in the ring ... Uses the Storm cradle driver for his finisher.

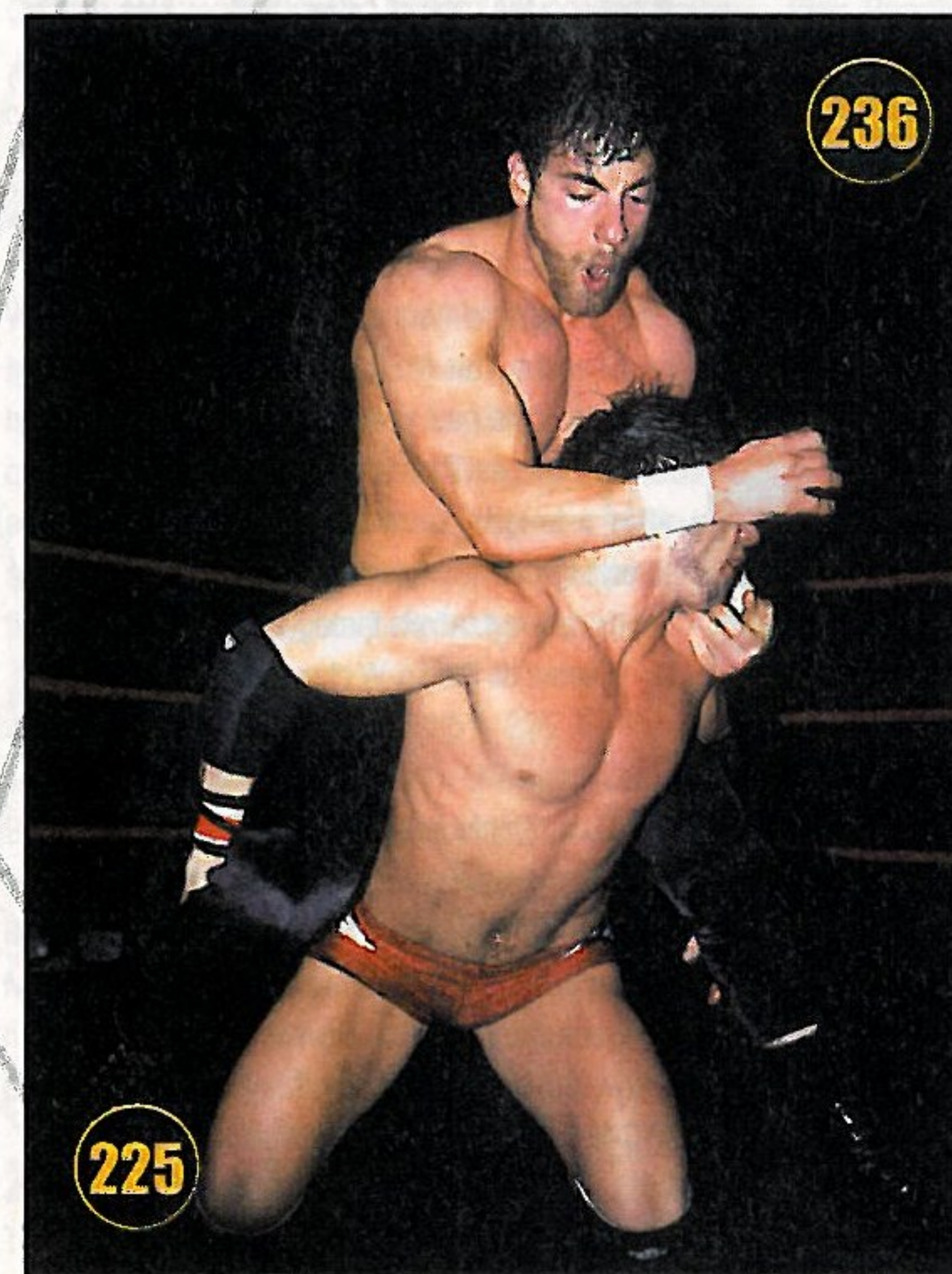


**227 BOBBY QUANCE** (5'8", 170, 4, NL) Currently training for New Japan Pro Wrestling in the Inoki Dojo in Southern California ... The shooting star press is his finisher, hence the nickname "Shooting Star" ... Former APW universal champion ... High-flying competitor also has excellent mat wrestling skills ... Won the Golden Gate Invitational Tournament.

**228 ZACH GOWEN** (5'11", 155, 2, 233) His 15 minutes of fame started with a regular gig at TNA and ended with Brock Lesnar tossing him down a flight of stairs in WWE ... He and the WWE parted ways in February 2004 ... Now competing on the indies again, mainly in the Midwest ... Reduced his schedule to concentrate on obtaining a secondary education and mathematics degree from Eastern Michigan University.

**229 SEAN CASEY** (5'9", 210, 12, 154) Protege of Brian Pillman, but he emulates Shawn Michaels right down to the superkick ... Only wrestler other than Michaels ever to appear in *Playgirl* ... Former OVW light heavyweight champion and Heartland Wrestling Association tag champion ... Often accompanied to the ring by The Sexettes ... Currently holds the Blue Water Championship Wrestling heavyweight title, which he has successfully defended against Buff Bagwell and Chris Sabin, among others ... Calls his inverted stunner finisher the mind blower.

**230 DICK TOGO** (5'9", 219, 13, 212) Heavy-set Japanese wrestler is one of the key players in Michinoku Pro, where he was once the leader of the Kaientai DX stable ... A former British Commonwealth junior champion ... Sometimes teams with Ikuto Hidaka ... A gifted brawler who has tremendous jabs and uppercuts ... Likes to plant his oppo-



nents with a pedigree to put them in position for his signature move, the top-rope senton.

**231 MILANO COLLECTION AT** (5'11", 179, 4, 208) Leader of The Italian Connection stable ... Feuding with other Toryumon groups like Crazy Max ... Well-adjusted to wrestling in a hexagon ring ... Claims to be an Italian supermodel, and typically walks an invisible dog to ringside ... Graceful high-flyer has an excellent quebrada and twisting senton ... Loads his arsenal with submission moves like *la nieblina* and his personal favorite, the AT lock arm submission.

**232 JINSEI SHINZAKI** (5'10", 207, 11, 280) Japanese middleweight makes his home in Michinoku Pro ... Has wrestled for New Japan, All-Japan Pro Wrestling, WWE, and FMW during his career ... Slow, methodical wrestler ... Former teammate of Hayabusa ... Has a perfect top-rope headbutt ... His signature move is the praying power bomb, but he sometimes likes to make opponents submit to his straightjacket camel clutch.

**233 M-DOGG 20** (5'7", 177, 5, NL) Frequent tag team partner of Josh Prohibition competes throughout the country as M-Dogg 20 and "Iron" Matt Cross ... Recently toured Japan with Big Japan Pro Wrestling ... Still lays claim to the XPW tag title ... Has competed in IWA Mid-South, MLW, IWC, and PWG ... Beat veteran Jerry Lynn to win the vacant UIPW heavyweight title ... Finishers are the Phoenix splash and shooting star press.

**234 THE BLUE MEANIE** (5'11", 280, 10, 247) The Yellow Submarine refugee now competes almost exclusively for Philadelphia's 3PW ... Still an item with the sultry Jasmin St. Claire, though the two have been feuding in the ring ... Also feuded with Jack Victory, Rockin' Rebel, and Rob Eckos this year ... Currently in the midst of a heated feud with Roadkill ... A charismatic and colorful (well, mostly blue) performer, no matter how big he is.

**235 JUDO SUWA** (5'9", 210, 7, 161) One of the most popular characters in the Toryumon group, he is part of the Crazy Max stable ... Always feuding with Do-Fixer and The Italian Connection stables ... Known for his incredible "John Wu" corner dropkick that sends opponents all the way across the ring ... Wrestles all over Mexico and Japan ... Favorite finisher is the pedigree, but he calls his variation the Triple F.

**236 JOHN WALTERS** (6', 222, 4, 338) "The Hurricane" was a favorite in the 2004 Super 8, but was upset by Austin Aries in the semis ... Trained by

Killer Kowalski, Walters utilizes a mat- and technical wrestling-based style, similar to that of Lance Storm ... Regularly competes for the ECWA, ROH, and New England indy promotions, but has also appeared in WWE ... Streamlined physique and mastery of technical moves and counters makes him a hot prospect who will most likely make it to WWE someday.

**237 JAMES TIGHE** (5'10", 210, 4, NL) Popular scientific wrestler went on a losing streak after dropping a best-of-three-falls match against FWA British heavyweight champion Doug Williams, but seems to have gotten back to an even keel ... Holds victories over Paul London and Jodie Fleisch ... Beat Jonny Storm in a loser-leaves-FWA match and is concentrating at getting another shot at Williams ... One of England's rising stars.

**238 SHAWN DAIVARI** (5'10", 203, 4, NL) Was a last-minute replacement for the injured Tyson Dux in the 2004 Super 8 Tournament ... Trademark finisher is his magic carpet ride splash off the top rope, complete with a Persian rug ... Also has an effective Death Valley driver ... Trained by Eddie Sharkey and Tom Prichard ... A native of Minneapolis, Daivari has competed throughout the Midwest and recently debuted in OVW and ROH ... Wrestling style can be described as technical, with international influences.

**239 MINORU FUJITA** (5'9", 195, 7, 248) New Japan regular is also the top star of the Kaientai Dojo group run by Taka Michinoku ... Wears baggy shorts to the ring and usually has his hair dyed orange ... Former star of Michinoku Pro toured the United States and Puerto Rico extensively before returning to Japan ... Has great German and Dragon suplexes ... Uses an unusual submission hold as his finisher, a reverse viper hold he calls boneyard.

**240 MASADA** (6'3", 235, 4, NL) This vile, tattooed former death metal musician from Waco, Texas, claims to be the nastiest, stiffest wrestler around ... Former Carnage Crew member in ROH, alongside DeVito, Loc, and Justin Credible ... Now teaming with Danny Daniels as the New version of the Crew ... Also competes in NWA Wildside where he teams with Todd Sexton as the Texas Death Club ... Finisher is the Masadamizer DVD.

**241 JOSH PROHIBITION** (6', 200, 3, 398) Graduated from backyard wrestling to become one of the hottest competitors on the indy circuit ... Recently started competing in England and Japan ... Frequent tag team partner of M-Dogg 20 ... Calls his finishing move the drunken driver ... Was out of action for about two months with a broken ankle ... Violent, high-impact style almost ended his career in 2002, when he briefly retired after receiving several concussions.



## 242 DANNY INFERNO (6'4", 230, 12, 318)

East Coast indy mainstay is now a member of The Jersey Crew in OVW. This 27-year-old turned pro at 15 and also wrestled in high school and college. Says he was named "Mr. Jersey Shore 2000" but there is no record of it that we've been able to find. His toughest opponents have included Tyson Tomko, Billy Gunn, Justin Credible, and Pat Kenney.

## 243 MIKE KRUEL (5'10", 225, 3, 331)

Voluntarily forfeited the ECWA heavyweight title after losing to Christopher Daniels in the semifinals of the 2004 Super 8 Tournament, even though that title wasn't on the line. Very strong submission grappler who is well-schooled in shootfighting. Son of veteran wrestler Bodyguard For Hire. Inspired by Bret Hart and Kurt Angle. Has wrestled several dark matches for WWE.

## 244 ONYX (5'9", 217, 5, 286)

This NWA Wildside standout is finally noticed in TNA as part of Jeff Jarrett's Elite Guard. Previously played football in the CFL. Has wrestled several WWE dark matches under the name Kyle McKneely. Most visible win to date was a six-man victory over 3 Live Kru. Pound-for-pound, he has one of the most stunning physiques in wrestling. Known to surprise opponents with a pristine dropkick. Calls his primary finisher the blackout.

## 245 JADO (5'6", 198, 11, 269)

One-time IWGP junior heavyweight champ is the long-time partner of Gedo. They've become one of Japan's most respected tag teams. Recently held the IWGP junior tag title with Gedo, but they lost the belts to Curry Man and American Dragon. Brief run as singles champion was the result of his win in a battle royal for the vacant IWGP junior title. Made a few appearances with ECW in the States a few years back.

## 246 BRAD BRADLEY (6'4", 274, 3, NL)

Based out of the Midwest but has begun to travel, competing in Chikara, ROH, CZW, and New Japan's Inoki Dojo this year. Planning a move to California to continue training at the dojo. Extensively scouted by New Japan. Competed in the IWA Ted Petty Invitational and IWA tag team tournament. Usually uses the lariat clothesline as his finishing move. Frequently teams with Ryan Boz. Trained by Danny Dominion, Ace Steel, and Kevin Quinn.

## 247 DANNY DANIELS (5'8", 203, 7, NL)

Career highlight to date was winning the 24-man Ted Petty Invitational Tournament in 2003. Trained by Al Snow. Uses several variations of the piledriver to beat opponents.

Teams with Masada as The New Carnage Crew in ROH and is feuding with Loc and DeVito, the original Carnage Crew. Faced A.J. Styles for the NWA title in May, but came up just short. Should be a major player in the coming years.

## 248 YOSSINO (5'9", 166, 4, 220)

Quick mat wrestler wears Tarzan-like ring attire made over in the colors of the Italian flag. Officially changed his name from Masato Yoshino upon joining Milano Collection AT's Italian Connection stable with partner Stevie Tsujimoto. Teamed with his mentor, Ultimo Dragon, to win the first Differ Ariake Cup Tournament. Possesses a number of unique submissions—his favorite is a satellite headscissors he turns into a royal octopus hold.

## 249 TEDDY HART (6'1", 195, 5, NL)

Quite possibly the most controversial wrestler on the indy circuit today. Burning bridges quicker than a wild-fire. Nephew of Bret Hart and grandson of Stu is known for his daredevil high-flying moves and no-showing scheduled dates. Banished from ROH after performing backflips off the top of a steel cage without permission, but returned for one match against Red in March. Claims to be the "past, present, and future of professional wrestling."

## 250 BILLY FIVES (5'11", 222, 7, 205)

The man who unified the NWA Florida State and IPW hardcore titles has spent the past year battling Scoot Andrews and Mike Sullivan all over the Southeast. Has somewhat curtailed his wrestling career to concentrate more on training and competing in mixed martial arts competitions. Holds the Pro Wrestling Fusion title. Has toured Saudi Arabia, the Caribbean, and South America.

## 251 PRINCE NANA (5'11", 235, 8, 259)

It's a safe bet Prince Nana is the most well-known prince from the Ashanti tribe of West Ghana, Africa, currently wrestling in the U.S. Competes in several Northeast-based promotions, including Ring of Honor. Has also wrestled in dark matches for WWE and toured Japan with Zero-One. Defeated Ace Darling in a lumberjack match to win the ECWA Mid-Atlantic title. Previously headed The Royal Decision until Nana fired the group.

## 252 GEDO (5'7", 215, 11, 264)

Finally recaptured the IWGP junior tag title with partner Jado. Better off as a tag team wrestler now, but he was once very successful in singles competition. Rose to prominence in Team No Respect alongside Kodo Fuyuki. Always feuding with Jushin Liger and Koji Kanemoto and Tiger Mask IV and Heat. Has a great pinning combination in his barrel roll variation he calls the Gedo clutch. Loves to use the Superfly splash off the top rope as well.

## 253 MIKE SULLIVAN (6'1", 220, 9, 251)

"The Freedom Ryder" is a four-time IPW heavyweight champion. Defeated Steve Corino to win the NWA Southern heavyweight title. He and partner Scott Andrews unified the NWA Florida and IPW tag titles. Native of Long Island is a very good grappler, but has been called bland by some critics. Competed in the 2001 Super 8 tournament. Has wrestled several WWE dark matches.

## 254 LAMONT (5'4", 170, 2, NL)

Known at various times as Static D, Bruce, and Morris in OVW, he is best known for his stint as Lamont, the butler sidekick to Ernest Miller for a brief WWE run. Studied two forms of karate and tae kwon do, achieving the rank of brown belt. Also a nifty little dancer. As Morris, he served as Rene Dupree's butler in OVW and is still a member of Kenny Bolin's weird assortment of wrestlers.

## 255 DEAN JABLONSKI (6'3", 275, 8, 249)

Though he frequently teams with his brother, Chef, as The A-Squad, Dean has spent the majority of the past year in singles competition. Trained by Les Thatcher. Defeated Shark Boy after a lengthy feud to win the Buckeye Pro Wrestling heavyweight title. Competes around Pittsburgh, but travels throughout the Midwest. Undeclared as the Tri-W champion.

## 256 CHRIS HAMRICK (5'11", 210, 19, 203)

"Confederate Currency" is a well-traveled journeyman and one of the most respected competitors on the indy circuit. Finishing moves are the top-rope legdrop and the always-dangerous top-rope piledriver. Teamed with fellow Southerner Tracey Smothers to win the IWC tag title from Josh Prohibition and M-Dogg 20. Was prominently featured in ECW and XPW. Competed as Crimson Dragon in TNA.

## 257 SETH SKYFIRE (5'10", 195, 4, NL)

Was named OVW's Most Improved Wrestler in 2004. By-passed traditional sports in high school to become a skateboarding champion. Competed throughout Alabama on the indy circuit prior to joining OVW. Says his favorite movie is *Driving Miss Daisy*. One of OVW's most charismatic and energetic wrestlers, Skyfire is a favorite with the fans at the Davis Arena.

## 258 RIKI CHOSHU (6', 249, 30, 127)

Three-time former IWGP heavyweight champ departed New Japan to form his own independent, WJ Pro, which folded. A three-time former IWGP tag team champion. Formally retired in 1998, but returned to a full-time schedule in 2002. Years of hard matches have taken their toll on this legendary grappler's body. Loves to subdue opponents with the scorpion deathlock. Rose to prominence way back in the 1970s.

## 259 JIMMY VEGAS (6'3", 250, 4, 271)

Appeared on *WWE Velocity* earlier this year. Trained by Shane Douglas and is currently feuding with his mentor. Has aligned himself with Bubba the Bulldog and Dennis Gregory in the International Wrestling Cartel. Faced both Bam Bam Bigelow and New Jack this year. Usually finishes opponents with the cha-ching slam, a variation of the Angle slam. Has scored wins over Raven, Sandman, and Tommy Dreamer during his career.

## 260 CHAD WICKS (5'10", 205, 2, 500)

Last year's number 500 is now a WWE developmental wrestler. Currently learning his way in Ohio Valley Wrestling. Former Chaotic Wrestling heavyweight champion. Moved to California in early-2004 to train at the Inoki Dojo and wrestle for New Japan Pro Wrestling. Competed in the NJPW Young Lions Cup. Has teamed with Jushin Liger on occasion. Signed to a developmental deal after competing on *Sunday Night Heat*.

## 261 ALEX ARION (5'7", 205, 6, 257)

"The Golden Greek" is based in Vermont's Green Mountain Wrestling and has competed in Ring of Honor, NWA New England, and other promotions. Has wrestled a handful of WWE dark matches. Short stature often causes larger opponents to take him lightly, which usually proves to be a big mistake. Possesses terrific leg strength, which helps him get surprising height on his finisher, the reverse double-jump bodypress.

## 262 HARRY SMITH (6'5", 225, 9, NL)

The son of Davey Both Smith goes by the nickname "The Bulldog." Broke into wrestling at the tender age of nine. Teams with T.J. Wilson as The Stampede Bulldogs. Made his U.S. debut this January for MLW. Has been scouted by WWE and has worked numerous dark matches. Pays tribute to his father by using the powerslam as a finisher.

## 263 FRANK PARKER (6'3", 285, 11, 266)

Turned down a scholarship to the University of Tennessee to train under Jimmy Valiant in 1992. Has vowed to humiliate his mentor and shave off his trademark beard before Valiant retires. Scored two separate title wins over The Barbarian this year to claim both the Raw Wrestling and Bruiser Wrestling Federation heavyweight titles. Finisher is the facelift, a fireman's carry into a stunner. Executes an impressive huracanrana for a man his size.

Has vowed to humiliate his mentor and shave off his trademark beard before Valiant retires. Scored two separate title wins over The Barbarian this year to claim both the Raw Wrestling and Bruiser Wrestling Federation heavyweight titles. Finisher is the facelift, a fireman's carry into a stunner. Executes an impressive huracanrana for a man his size.

## 264 SUMO FUJI (5'8", 220, 7, 229)

A dominant force and one of the heaviest competitors in Ultimo Dragon's Toriyumon group. The powerhouse of the Crazy Max stable. Spent a lot of last year obsessed with the miniature gorilla called Venezia that pops up at Toriyumon events. Known for his hard chops and stocky frame. Probably the only one of Dragon's proteges to never resort to high-flying. Finisher is a sitdown choke-slam.

## 265 CODY HAWK (6'2", 220, 10, 236)

The HWA standout suffered a broken neck in November 2003 at the hands of Matt Stryker. Successfully returned to the ring and dominated Stryker in the ensuing feud. Somehow, the two developed mutual respect and have become an effective tag team. Currently feuding with The Black Militia. Nickname is "The Surfer" and primary finisher is the hang 10. Three-time former HWA champ has added additional muscle mass this year.

## 266 VINNY MASSARO (5'9", 259, 6, 282)

Powerful Sicilian competes throughout California. Home base is the APW, where he has held several different championships. Often teams with "Big Ugly" J.D. Bishop. Known for having several finishing moves, including the "Greetings From The Pink Poodle," a sitdown tombstone piledriver. Also has competed in XPW and UPW. Biggest win of his career was over Nova. Considers himself the "Albert Einstein Of Wrestling."

## 267 TODD SEXTON (6'1", 215, 3, NL)

Known as "The Technician" for his tremendous mat wrestling ability. Forms The Texas Death Club with Masada. A former student of Shawn Michaels at the Texas Wrestling Academy. Has competed in NWA Wildside, ROH, and IWA Mid-South. Has also appeared on *NWA-TNA Xplosion*. Usually finishes opponents with the superkick or the gamebreaker. Could stand to add additional muscle mass to his lean frame.

## 268 JIMMY JACOBS (5'8", 169, 5, 483)

Huss! Huss! The "Barbaric Berzerker" is a

huge fan of wildmen like Bruiser Brody and The Berzerker. Wears furry boots and has "Huss" emblazoned on the back of his tights. Mainly wrestles in IWA Mid-South, ROH, and IWC. Long-running feud with Alex Shelley has now crossed into six states. Sometimes hides a spike given to him by Kevin Sullivan inside his boot. Accompanied to the ring by Becky Bayless.

## 269 FAST EDDIE (5'10", 211, 4, NL)

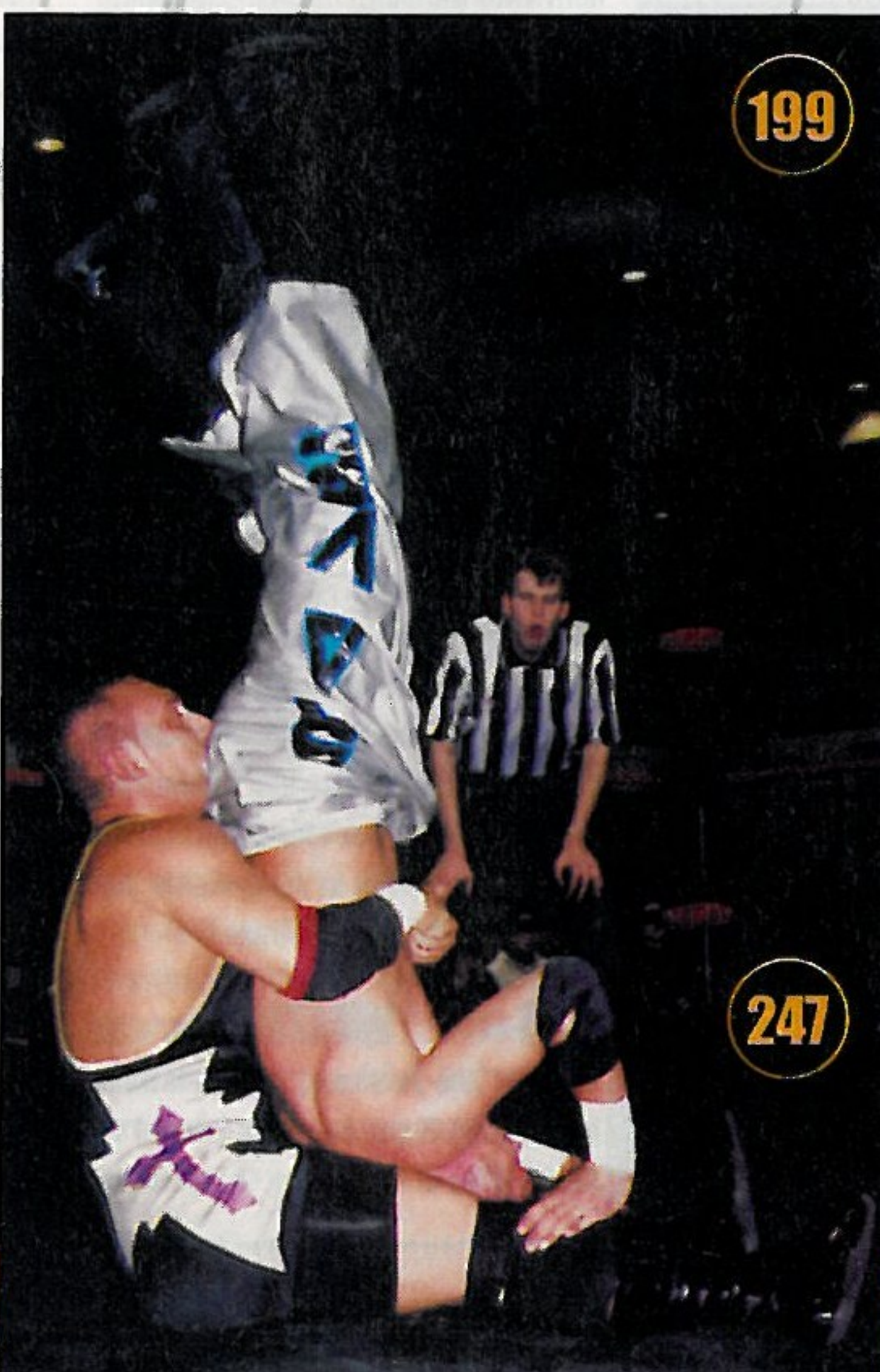
Don't ask Fast Eddie about JBL: he's still sore that Bradshaw made him wax the hood of his limo on *Smackdown*. A graduate of the Texas Wrestling Academy. Teams with Hotstuff Hernandez in ROH. Beats opponents with a fall-away slam into a moonsault he calls the fastidious. Believe it or not, he is legally blind. Beat Seth Delay to win the NWA Wildside junior heavyweight title. Also competed in MLW.

## 270 SCORPIO (5'11", 239, 15, 168)

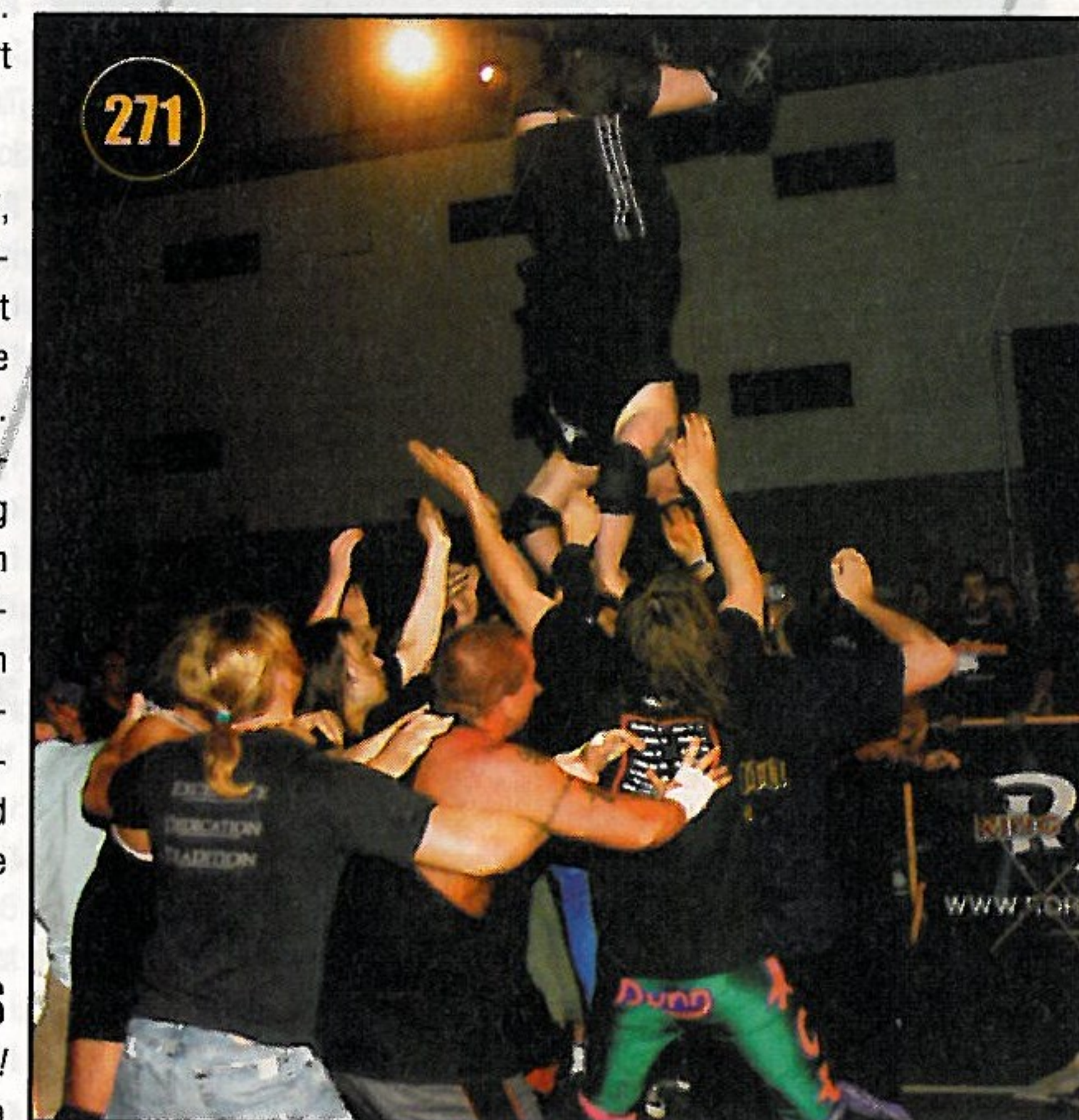
Former WWE, WCW, and ECW star is the top American star in NOAH. A top contender for the Global Honored Crown. A former ECW TV champion. Originator of the Scorpio splash, or as its more commonly known, the 450 splash. Despite his size, he remains one of the most graceful flyers active today.

## 271 DeVITO (5'8", 230, 14, 296)

Along with H.C. Loc, forms The Carnage Crew in Ring of Honor. Garbage match specialist, but his real specialty is hiding the fact that he's an accomplished technical wrestler. Feuding with former Crew member Masada, who broke away from them and formed his own Carnage Crew. Cuts one hell of a promo. A legitimate tough guy who never backs down from a fight.



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**272 ICEBERG** (6'3", 600, 8, 273) The massive "No Pain Train" is quite agile for a man his size ... Made a pit-stop in NWA-TNA as Edward Chastain and attacked Sandman ... Held the NWA Wildside title from September 2002 to May 2003 ... Dropped the title to Hotstuff Hernandez, prompting a falling-out with manager Jeff G. Bailey ... Calls his swanton bomb the extinction level event ... Has competed in ROH, CZW, WING, and Puerto Rico's WWC.

**273 DALLAS** (6'9", 289, 1, NL) The gigantic Dallas stormed into TNA as Kid Kash's mystery partner and was immediately rewarded with NWA tag team gold ... Not much is known of his past, but Kash claims he and Dallas are somehow related ... His sitdown power bomb is truly devastating ... With Dallas at his side, Kash is talking some serious smack, and Dallas is having to clean up a lot of Kash's messes.

**274 JOE E. LEGEND** (6'3", 252, 9, NL) Canadian veteran has competed all over the world, including South Africa, Japan, England, Germany, and throughout North America ... Appeared as Just Joe in WWE ... Debuted in NWA-TNA this year as a member of Red Shirt Security ... Home base is Border City Wrestling ... Fantastic on the mike, Legend is able to rile up a crowd like few others ... Trained alongside Edge, Christian, and Swinger under Sweet Daddy Siki.

**275 GRAN HAMADA** (5'4", 190, 33, 316) Living legend of Lucha and *puroresu* is now wrestling in

his fourth decade ... Former star of New Japan, Universal, and Michinoku Pro is now a regular with All-Japan ... Fought the original Tiger Mask in his prime, some 20 years ago ... Known for his powerful head-butts ... A decorated champion over the years, he helped popularize Lucha in Japan ... Has one of the sport's best huracanranas.

**276 ALEX SHELLEY** (5'10", 199, 2, NL) Newest protege of Goldylocks in TNA was trained by Scott D'Amore ... Heavily influenced by British and Japanese styles ... Often utilizes European uppercuts, neck cravats, and the stretch plum submission ... Competed in IWA Mid-South, CZW, and ROH prior to joining TNA ... Is part of ROH's Generation NeXt along with Austin Aries, Roderick Strong, and Jack Evans ... Scored a win over Zach Gowen in Border Championship Wrestling in May.

**277 H.C. LOC** (5'9", 225, 8, 303) The other half of The Camage Crew, the resident tough guy team of Ring of Honor ... Besides ROH, he wrestles primarily in the New York-area independents ... Currently feuding with former CC members Masada and Danny Daniels, who claim to be the new Camage Crew ... Ring brutality obscures his technical skills ... Has been on the winning end of some of ROH's more violent matches.

**278 OTTO SCHWANZ** (6'4", 260, 7, 322) Managed by Count Grog, Schwanz is a fixture in South Memphis and a mainstay on the North Carolina indy scene ... Greatest moment of the past year came when he turned against C.W. Anderson and faced him for the vacant SCW title ... Appeared in NWA-TNA and WWE as Bo Dupp ... Four-time SCW heavyweight champion ... Has also worked for ECW and Memphis Championship Wrestling.

**279 AKIRA TAUE** (6'5", 272, 16, 342) Former All-Japan Triple Crown champion has lost a lot of his speed and agility over the last few years ... In-ring pace is methodical, to say the least ... Lost in the undercard mix in NOAH ... Lumbering heavyweight is a little past his prime nowadays ... Master of the *nodowa otoshi*, a low elevation, two-handed choke-slam that he can execute from anywhere.

**280 JACEY NORTH** (6', 199, 5, 297) North is finally taking wrestling seriously ... A former U.S. Marine ... Teamed with Dagon Briggs in NWA-Wildside until Briggs left Wildside ... Signature moves include the Iconoclasm and the North Pole piledriver ... Lost a "loser becomes a fan" match to Jeff

Lewis, but was replaced by the mysterious masked man "Mr. D," who coincidentally bore a striking resemblance to North ... Mr. D retired when North was reinstated ... Hmmmmmm.

**281 JASON RUMBLE** (5'9", 201, 7, 305) The "Boston Bad Boy" was out of action for about six months with an injured ACL ... A fixture on the New England circuit, Rumble toured Canada and twice wrestled for NWA-TNA in Nashville ... Won a one-night, six-man tournament to win the NWH heavyweight title in June 2004 ... Has feuded with Gangrel, Larry Huntley, and Sonny Roselli ... A fantastic talker.

**282 GABRIEL** (6'2", 212, 2, 315) Formerly one-half of The Lost Boys, along with Azrael ... Team exploded when Azrael threw Gabriel off a 15-foot ladder and joined Jeff G. Bailey's NWA Elite ... One of the most popular wrestlers in NWA Wildside ... Lost to A.J. Styles in an exciting contest on *NWA-TNA Xplosion* ... Uses the Arabian press and cradle to the grave power bomb as his trademark moves.

**283 SLASH** (6', 212, 13, 117) Former NWA tag champion has undergone quite a transformation, from being the goofy Wolfie D from PG-13 to the quasi-satanic Slash of The New Church ... Journeyman wrestler has held championships in OWW, MCW, NAW, PPW, and the USWA ... Was a member of the original Disciples of Synn in Ohio Valley Wrestling ... A consummate brawler who has wrestled all over the globe.

**284 TOM BRANDI** (6'3", 260, 19, 224) Best known as Salvatore Sincere in the WWF, Brandi takes pride in being "one of wrestling's true independents" ... Competed as Johnny Gunn in WCW ... Known for blowing a whistle into the microphone, just to irritate the fans ... Once was known as Tom "Chippendale" Brandi, but dropped the exotic dancer gimmick for a more hard-edged style ... Still has one of wrestling's best dropkicks and remains in terrific physical condition.

**285 RICO CASANOVA** (6', 220, 12, 291) Native of Puerto Rico has competed there, Mexico, and throughout the U.S. ... Most high-profile match was against Sonny Siaki in NWA-TNA ... Held four titles simultaneously ... Won an extreme weapons match in Mexico, which is quite rare in that country ... Equally adept competing in heavyweight and light-heavyweight divisions ... A versatile competitor with solid brawling skills and aerial ability.

**286 AZRAEL** (6', 220, 7, 314) "The Angel Of Death" shocked NWA Wildside fans when he turned against his Lost Boys tag team partner, Gabriel ... Signed with manager Jeff G. Bailey and takes absurd pride in sending opponents to the hospital ... Offense contains some of the stiffest kicks in wrestling ... Likes to rely on foreign objects and throwing fire, but also is a talented technical wrestler.

**287 AARON AGUILERA** (6'6", 261, NL) The "Hardcore Kidd" is a former UPW standout ... Recently moved to Ohio Valley Wrestling ... He has appeared on *Heat*, as a Conquistador, and in several dark matches ... Originally trained by Tom Howard, Kevin Quinn, and American Dragon ... Held several singles and tag titles on the West Coast ... A troubled youth who has turned his life around to become a success ... Blends American and Lucha styles in his arsenal.

**288 KOHEI SATO** (6'3", 231, 4, NL) Japanese sensation in Zero-One recently won the annual Fire Festival ... Sato has an extensive background in judo that he has successfully incorporated into his pro wrestling repertoire ... Teams with Hirofumi Yokoi as Team Rowdy ... Sato and Yoko held the NWA Intercontinental tag team title ... Sato made his U.S. debut with Pro Wrestling World-1 and impressed the critics.

**289 TARU** (5'11", 231, 7, 298) Dangerous ex-Yakuza member has found his home wrestling with Crazy Max in the Toryumon group ... Delivers incredibly precise kicks, usually to the groin ... Usually teams with CIMA and Judo Suwa for trios matches ... Long feud with Kinya Oyanagai delivered several hilarious matches ... Thick, mat-based grappler is one of the Toryumon's few true heavyweights ... Pet move is the Taru driller, a version of the square driver.

**290 RYAN BOZ** (6'4", 250, 4, NL) Frequently teams with Brad Bradley throughout the Midwest ... That team is somewhat reminiscent of Steve Williams/Terry Gordy tandem ... Signature move is a sit-

down tombstone piledriver ... Trained by Brandon Bishop and also has been tutored by Tracey Smothers and Colt Cabana ... Has feuded with Ian and Axl Rotten, Mahoney, and B.G. James ... Has competed in IWA Mid-South and several NWA territories, including TNA.

**291 GRAN APOLO** (6'4", 265, 5, 143) The International Wrestling Association mainstay has found a niche in TNA for a while ... Feuded with Savio Vega in Puerto Rico's IWA ... Flirted with retirement before returning to TNA as the masked El Leon ... Came surprisingly close to taking Jeff Jarrett's NWA title ... Unmasked and formed a team with D-Lo Brown ... Enjoyed a one-week NWA tag title reign ... Favors a Rock bottom variation as his finisher.

**292 THE STRO** (6'1", 250, 15, 335) "You can't go toe-to-toe with The Stro," or so he says ... Competed as The Maestro in WCW and as Robbie Eagle and Gorgeous George III ... Claims he is related to the original Gorgeous George Wagner ... Trained by Nelson Royal, Gene Anderson, and Ivan Koloff ... Travels all over on the independent circuit ... Uses a bearhug lift into a cradle DDT as his finisher ... Has feuded with Shark Boy, David Young, and Brian Christopher.

**293 BIGGIE BIGGS** (6'5", 275, 11, 326) "All That" has been busy defending the NWA/NWS Unified title throughout various NWA territories ... Home promotion is the IWF, where he holds the American title ... The only man ever to hold all three championships in the IWF ... The last man trained by "Iron" Mike Sharpe, but he certainly has a better won-loss record than "Canada's Greatest Athlete" ... Uses the Bigg-Bang and Dang-buster as finishers.

**294 DANNY DORING** (5'11", 212, 6, 167) The "Danaconda" competes on the indy circuit ... Graduated from the ECW House of Hardcore, where he was trained by Perry Saturn and Tazz ... Former ECW tag champion ... He and Roadkill nearly won the NWA tag title in October 2003 from Swinger and Simon Diamond ... Feuded with Kaos in XPW ... Previously managed by Lita (as Miss Congeniality) ... Considers himself an R-rated version of Bret Hart, referring to his finishers with sexually explicit names.

**295 ZEBRA KID** (6', 225, 9, NL) Zebra Kid is one of the toughest stars on the United Kingdom circuit ... Second-generation wrestler is the son of British legend Ricky Knight ... Made his pro debut at age 13 ... Held the All-England title for more than a year before dropping it to Hade Vansen in a controversial ladder match ... Biggest match to date was against Samoa Joe in May 2003 ... Is becoming the standard-bearer for wrestling in England.

**296 GRAN NANIWA** (5'7", 194, 10, 349) The "Great Crab" of All-Japan is a crowd favorite ... Regularly fights fellow Michinoku alumni Kaz Hayashi, Gran Hamada, and Taka Michinoku in AJPW ...

Popped up at the Skydiving J, the 1995 Super J Cup, and some Best of the Super Junior Tournaments as well, which garnered him widespread recognition ... Uses the Doctor bomb, an invention of "Dr. Death" Steve Williams, to put opponents away.

**297 TANK** (6'2", 320, 8, 293) Big, bad brawler from NWA Wildside has changed his nickname from "Sickle Wielding Maniac" to "Strong Style Psycho" ... Either way, it's bad news for opponents ... Three-time former Wildside tag champion is an expert submission wrestler and was a standout collegiate competitor for the University of Iowa ... Uses Mitsuharu Misawa's emerald froison as a finisher ... Has wrestled for NWA Rocky Mountain, TNA, IWA Mid-South, and CZW ... Has teamed with Road Warrior Animal and Big Bossman.

**298 VANCE NEVADA** (5'11", 214, 11, 309) "Mr. Beefy Goodness" has earned a reputation as one of Canada's most consistent performers ... Based in Canada's Extreme Canadian Championship Wrestling ... Defended the ECCW title against Matt Borne, Chance Beckett, and Tony Kozina ... Frequently teams with Disco Fury as Double Platinum ... Allied with Cuban legend Fidel Sierra in a campaign against the fan favorites of the Pacific Northwest ... Also held the Maniac Wrestling Alliance heavyweight title.

**299 SLYK WAGNER BROWN** (6'2", 220, 7, 310) Turned down an amateur wrestling scholarship to attend Killer Kowalski's pro wrestling school ... Journeyman has competed for TNA, ROH, New England Championship Wrestling, NWA Northeast, WXW, and 3PW ... Managed by April Hunter ... Says he has won "every title in New England," and that might be true ... In addition to his appreciation bomb (seated power bomb) finisher, Brown also uses his drop of xstacy (full-nelson seated slam) and Slyksault moonsault.

**300 SCOTTY MAC** (5'8", 205, 4, NL) Has captured the imagination of the fans in the Pacific Northwest, on both sides of the border ... Won the 2003 Pacific Cup junior heavyweight tournament ... Home promotion is Canada's Extreme Canadian Championship Wrestling ... Two-time ECCW heavyweight champ ... Dropped the title to arch-nemesis Vance Nevada ... He has been touted by the legendary Grappler Len Denton as the future of the industry.

**301 GENE SINISKI** (6'4", 310, 3, NL) This well-muscled former football player was trained by Afa the Wild Samoan ... Formerly a member of The Twin Tackles with Rob Harper ... Has held the WXW tag team and heavyweight titles ... Proudly represented WXW on a wrestling tour of the Middle East to support and improve U.S. troop morale in the summer of 2002 ... Recently signed a WWE developmental deal and was assigned to OVW.





**302 SAVIO VEGA** (6', 245, 18, 288) WWF alumnus is competing as The Boss in Puerto Rico's IWA ... A legendary figure in Puerto Rico, having held virtually every title in the IWA and WWC ... Dominated Steve Austin for a while in Austin's first WWF feud ... Wrestles only part-time these days, opting to pull strings behind the scenes instead ... Still uses a spinkick as his main finisher ... A consummate brawler ... Formerly known as TNT and Kwang.

**303 T.J. WILSON** (6', 195, 9, NL) "The Stampede Kid" started wrestling at age 15 and frequently is compared to his idol, Owen Hart ... Has competed for Stampede, ROH, MLW, Jersey All-Pro, and PWA in the past year ... Wilson has made three tours of Japan, including participating in the prestigious Best of the Super Juniors tournament ... Teams with Smith as The Stampede Bulldogs.

**304 RODERICK STRONG** (5'10", 205, 4, 416) Former student of Jim "The Anvil" Neidhart has been making waves in 3PW, ROH, and CZW ... Finishing moves are the CX 02 crucifix into a diamond cutter and CX 03 straight jacket Gory driver ... Part of Generation NeXt in ROH ... Held the IPW tag team and cruiserweight titles and NWA Florida X title ... An excellent technical wrestler who could do quite well in the NWA-TNA X division.



**305 JERRELLE CLARK** (5'6", 175, 5 NL) Captured the NWA World junior heavyweight champion with a win over Chris Draven in January ... Successfully defended that title against Roderick Strong, Azrael, Naphtali, and Fast Eddie ... Made his NWA-TNA debut in October 2003, teaming with El Fuego in a loss against Sonjay Dutt and Eric Young ... Widely known for his 630-degree splash ... Also has competed in ROH, CZW, NWA Wildside, and NWA Virginia.

**306 DENNIS GREGORY** (6'1", 222, 12, 285) Veteran has been a major force in Pennsylvania for the past decade ... Beat Jimmy Vegas for the IWC heavyweight title and held it for five months before dropping the strap to Sterling James Keenan ... Took a few months off, then came back with a chip on his shoulder ... Calls himself an "Independent Legend" ... Currently feuding with Shane Douglas, Michael Shane, and Chris Candido.

**307 JUGGERNAUT** (6'4", 389, 7, 327) The big man from Cranbrook, British Columbia, likes to keep busy and wrestled more than 100 matches in 2003 ... Has won the TFW North American title several times ... Competed for Japan's Zero-One and some Canadian promotions ... Was managed by Bill "Big Thrilla" Flesher until the end of 2003 and recently hired the beautiful Miss Cheyenne as his new "ring consultant" ... Finishers include the K-Drill and double fishhook camel clutch.

**308 SLASH VENOM** (6'2", 225, 12, 157) The former Flash Flanagan is now a mainstay in IWA in Puerto Rico ... Has held a slew of titles in the U.S., including every title in OVW ... Was a journeyman wrestler before moving to IWA ... Has become a franchise player for IWA, having held the tag team and hardcore titles ... Has been scouted by the WWE, but seems to prefer the warm island climate to the hustle of the WWE schedule.

**309 MIKE BARTON** (6'4", 256, 12, 252) The former Bart Gunn is now a regular for New Japan Pro Wrestling ... Appeared in NWA-TNA as well as a dark match for WWE last year ... A tag team specialist who has held the WWE World, NWA, and AJPW tag titles with several different partners ... Landed the part of Ben Sharpe in the upcoming Rikidozan movie that is currently being filmed in Korea.

**310 D-RAY 3000** (5'10", 180, 1, NL) The big-afroed TNA superstar resembles a cross between Outkast's Andre 3000 and a Q-Tip ... Scored what looked like a career-making win over David Young, but didn't fare quite as well in subsequent matches against Abyss ... Claims the secret to his success is in his hair ... Perpetually confused, D-Ray 3000 is living proof that even the losers get lucky sometime ... A cult favorite in TNA ... Maybe he should consider teaming regularly with Shark Boy.

**311 EVAN KARAGIAS** (5'11", 169, 6, 267) The current AWA heavyweight champion ... Splits his time between wrestling, modeling, and acting ... Starring in the upcoming film *Undercover Kids* ... Can also be seen on Fox on the reality show *Live Like A Star* ... Cut his trademark dreadlocks, opting for short hair ... Feuding with Eric Priest for the AWA belt ... Maybe they want to find out who is the better underwear model.

**312 ALTAR BOY LUKE** (6', 214, 4, NL) Has shown he's more than a hardcore novelty act by thriving in NWA Wildside's competitive junior division ... Was involved in a "holy war" against the "Angel Of Death" Azrael ... Luke, A.J. Styles, and Gabriel (with Dusty Rhodes in their corner) defeated Azrael, Rainman, and Christopher Daniels at Wildside's Hardcore Hell ... Aerial stylings have gotten him several bookings in NWA-TNA.

**313 TYSON DUX** (5'9", 192, 7, 397) Talk about bad luck—just weeks before his scheduled appearance in the 2004 Super 8, Dux tore his ACL in a match against Mark Jindrak on *Velocity* ... Built a reputation as a top-notch submission wrestler in Ontario's Border City Wrestling and Neo Spirit Pro ... Texas cloverleaf is his favorite submission hold ... Trained by Scott D'Amore and would make an excellent addition to Team Canada in NWA-TNA ... Last name is pronounced "Dukes."

**314 JORGE ESTRADA** (5'10", 225, 5, 182) Former Flying Elvis is currently competing in Puerto Rico ... Trained by Dusty Rhodes ... Previously held the NWA North American title ... Combines high-flying aerial maneuvers such as the missile dropkick, split-legged moonsault, and springboard somersault senton bomb with fundamental mat wrestling techniques and martial arts strikes ... Has feuded with Hotstuff Hernandez ... Very charismatic performer in tremendous physical condition.

**315 STEVE MACK** (5'10", 275, 6, 265) This former Hit Squad member has finally found his niche as a singles wrestler ... Feuded with Ricky Banderas in IWA in Puerto Rico ... Also traveled the North Carolina independents with Boogalou and Low Ryda ... Feuding with Roadkill in 3PW ... Loves to finish off opponents with a vicious clothesline he calls the Clothesline from Compton.

**316 AFA JR.** (6'3", 260, 4, 321) Currently splitting his time between wrestling and college football ... He's a linebacker for the University of Connecticut ... Powerful Samoan grew up surrounded by some of the best in the business ... Son of Afa the Wild Samoan ... Has already wrestled all over the world with World Xtreme Wrestling ... Has already been tested in the ring against some of the bigger names in wrestling.

**317 JASON THE LEGEND** (6'4", 267, 2, NL) Powerful (and powerfully obnoxious) competitor has taken Pro Wrestling Zero-One by storm ... Competes under the UFO banner ... Came extremely close to beating The Predator for the Zero-One U.S. title in a true battle of the behemoths ... Adding shootfighting tactics to his power arsenal, making him a very dangerous competitor ... Has competed in the U.S. with Pro Wrestling World-1 ... Has vicious demeanor.

**318 BOOMER PAYNE** (6', 247, 9, 302) Held the All Pro Wrestling (Tennessee) tag team title with Section 8 until Section 8 blindsided him ... Faced his former partner in a casket match which was named APW's match of the year ... Lost that promotion's heavyweight title in a best-of-three falls cage match to Shane Austin ... Currently in the midst of a feud with Chris Hamrick ... Finishing move is the dishonorable discharge.

**319 YOSHIHITO SASAKI** (5'10", 209, 3, NL) Young Japanese prospect made his U.S. debut in an exceptional match against John Daniels in World-1 ... Won the Lion King Cup at the end of 2003, solidifying him as one of Japan's most promising juniors ... Regularly competes for Pro Wrestling Zero-One in Japan ... Very light on his feet, with catlike reflexes ... A true student of the game and a favorite among  *puroresu*  tape traders.

**320 DUSTY WOLFE** (5'11", 235, 22, 307) This well-respected veteran has held singles and tag titles virtually all over the world ... He has made numerous overseas tours in South Africa, England, Malaysia, Singapore, Japan, Korea, Greece, and India ... Frequently wrestles in Mexico, where he has worked for both AAA and EMLL ... Often wrestles in the Texas area independents like NWA-Southwest ... Despite his age, he's still a ruthless, methodical competitor.

**321 SEDRICK STRONG** (6'2", 200, 4, 336) Breakthrough moment came last year with an impressive performance in the 2003 Super 8 tournament where he lost to Chance Beckett ... He and brother Roderick wrestled Mike Sullivan and Scoot Andrews in what has been called the bloodiest cage match in Florida's IPW ... Has wrestled several matches for NWA-TNA ... Finishers are the super diamond dust and the Strong hold.

**322 BLADE BOUDREAUX** (6'2", 240, 9, 341) Held the Global Pro Wrestling heavyweight title for most of the past year, except for a one-week stint when Don Bass took the belt ... Successfully defended that title against Bobby Eaton, Miles Long, and others ... Reformed his team Cajun Heat with Denny Cooley ... Competes throughout Louisiana, Arkansas, Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee ... Uses an inverted DDT as a finishing move.

**323 STRIKER** (5'10", 225, 5, 382) Muscular East Coast competitor was trained by Johnny Rodz ...

Regularly competes in ECWA, USA Pro, and 3PW ... Appeared in WWE dark matches this year ... Known for imitating wrestlers such as Randy Savage and The Ultimate Warrior ... Was part of Prince Nana's Royal Decision in ECWA ... Feuded with former partner Johnny Heartbreaker ... Held seven different tag titles with five partners this year, including the ECWA tag title with Ace Darling.

**324 BUFF BAGWELL** (6'1", 240, 14, 188) Claims there is an Oliver Stone-type conspiracy to keep Buff down ... If you have some free time, just ask him about it ... Continues to make appearances on indy cards throughout the U.S. ... Five-time former WCW tag champ ... Toured Europe and Australia with the WWA ... Still in phenomenally good shape ... Buff blockbuster finisher is a flipping neckbreaker from off the top rope.

**325 ADAM FIRESTORM** (5'9", 185, 8, 277) Auckland, New Zealand, native ... Usually competes in British Columbia and the Pacific Northwest ... Formerly a hated rulebreaker, but made a baby face turn after wrestling Canadian legend Rocky Della Serra ... Teamed with Tony Kozina in the inaugural Pacific Cup Tag Team tournament ... Prides himself on being 100 percent drug and alcohol free and says he's in the best condition of his life ... Trained by Michelle Starr and Velvet McIntyre.

**326 ADAM WINDSOR** (6', 225, 3, 301) Still the "Royal Stud" of the Funkin' Conservatory in Florida ... So well-liked by his trainer, Dory Funk Jr., that he became a trainer at Funk's school ... Has held several titles in the Florida area ... Well-schooled in the mat-based old school style ... Has been scouted by WWE officials for several years, but has yet to receive a contract of any kind.

**327 "SPYDER" NATE WEBB** (6'2", 185, 3, NL) Nate Webb has earned the nickname "Mr. Xplosion" from TNA announcer Mike Tenay as he appears almost every week on TNA's syndicated program ... Has fared quite well in IWA Mid-South and CZW, where he is able to use weapons on his opponents ... Finishing move is called the Soylen Green, a reference to the film of the same name ... Has held the WCWO Midwest title, IWA light heavyweight title, IPW title, and MMWA title.

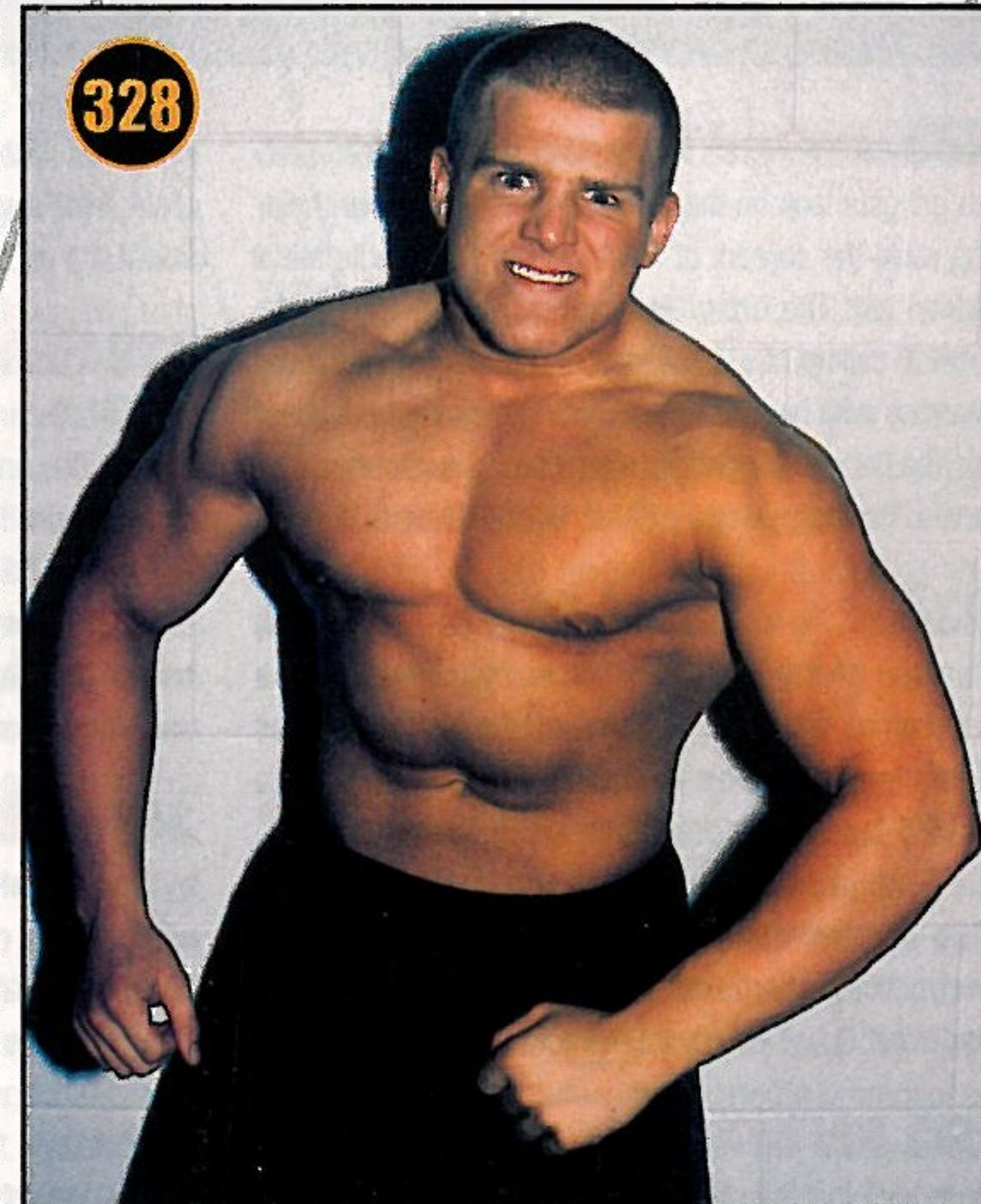
**328 MIKE MONDO** (5'7", 229, 2, NL) Known as "The Giant Killer," Mondo is the resident enforcer for Bolin Services ... Though he's one of the shortest wrestlers in OVW, Mondo seems to think he's seven feet tall and weighs more than 300 pounds ... Delusions of super heavyweight dominance are reminiscent of Crash Holly ... Was

the captain of his high school football team ... Despite his short stature, Mondo is a true powerhouse.

**329 JOHNNY HEARTBREAKER** (6'1", 225, 4, 366) Sidelined for a significant stretch of 2003 with an injured shoulder ... Competed in ECWA and other East Coast independents until moving onto Ohio Valley Wrestling ... Very impressive build makes him a favorite with female fans ... Teamed with Striker in early 2004, but conflicting egos tore the popular team apart ... Faced Striker in both singles matches and pose downs ... The fans have turned their backs on this arrogant snob.

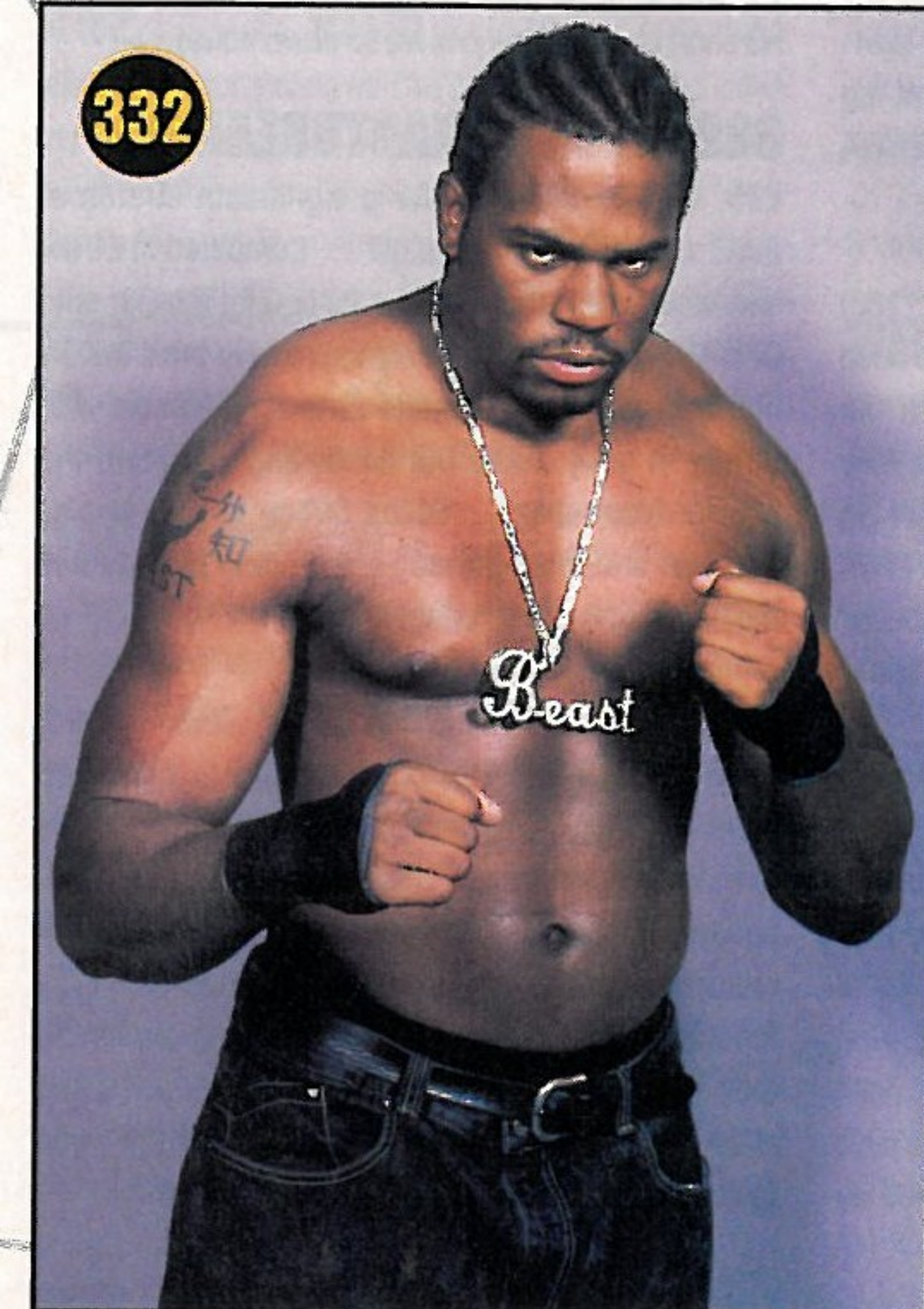
**330 LASH LeROUX** (5'10", 246, 6, 323) "Ragin' Cajun" is still going strong in the Deep South ... Fiery redhead has added several pounds of muscle to his frame ... Wrestles for several independent promotions in Louisiana ... Former WCW cruiserweight champ, although he wouldn't qualify for that weight class now ... Becoming almost as well-known for his artistic skills as his wrestling skills ... Trained at WCW's Power Plant ... Played football and wrestled in high school.

**331 CHRIS CANDIDO** (5'8", 226, 14, 294) Still competes on the independent circuit and Japan ... Recently toured Puerto Rico with the WWC ... Was a featured performer in XPW ... Usually uses the nickname "No Gimmicks Needed" ... Still with long-time girlfriend Tammy "Sunny" Sytch ... Has competed for virtually every major promotion in the last decade ... Still uses his blond bombshell power bomb from the top rope, as well as his top-rope huracanrana.





332



**332 DA BEAST** (6'6", 270, 1, NL) This powerful OVW rookie got into wrestling after a shootfighting career in which he went 35-7 overall ... Also was an experienced amateur boxer, going 57-26 ... His college basketball team won the NJCAA title in 1999-2000 and he was in the top 20 in the nation in rebounding ... Able to absorb an amazing amount of punishment and proficient in submission grappling—a deadly combination ... Teams with Carly Colon.

**333 MURDER 1** (6'4", 265, 13, 369) The veteran gangsta took on the role of a mentor this year, helping mold the careers of NWA Wildside prospects Mikal Adrian and The Urban Assault Squad ... Feuded with Slim J, calling him a "Murder 1 copycat," then started teaming with him instead ... Worked as the bodyguard for The Gangstas in Smoky Mountain ... Hardcore brawler also has competed for SMW, NWA-TNA, and 3PW.

**334 JIMMY SNUKA JR.** (6'2", 230, 5, 364) The son of the legendary "Superfly" Jimmy Snuka sometimes competes as Solo ... Like his father, uses Superfly splash as his finisher ... Feuded with Sakoda in UPW ... Under a developmental contract with WWE ... Formed a solid team with Predator in Japan's Zero-One promotion ... A former Mr. Hawaiian Islands bodybuilding champion ... Has competed in both East and West Coast indy promotions.

**335 NAPHTALI** (5'11", 165, 5, 313) Fearless daredevil lost his fans and now uses an old school

approach ... Calls his finishing move the fountain of death, a triple jump moonsault Van terminator ... Has held the IPW cruiserweight title, the NWA Florida junior heavyweight title, and the NWA Florida tag team title ... Formerly known as Al Bino ... Usually at a significant size disadvantage, but makes up for that with his unorthodox, dangerous offense.

**336 ROB ECKOS** (5'10", 180, 4, 355) One-half of the graduation cap and gown-wearing Valedictorians, along with Billy Bax ... They insult their opponents' intelligence, or lack thereof ... Managed by Carlton P. Hightower ... Successfully defended the ECWA tag title against The Maximos, Ace Darling and Striker, and The Shaolin Wrecking Crew ... In a scary moment, was thrown from a 14-foot high platform to the floor during a TLC match in May, but Eckos was uninjured.

**337 MARC ASH** (6'1", 220, 15, 367) Recently won his tenth ICW heavyweight title ... Indy veteran continues to dominate the competition in the Carolinas ... Currently feuding with Lodi ... Released a music CD entitled *Ashkicker*, containing his soon-to-be hit single, "Wrestling's My Game" ... Trained by Chief Jay Eagle and

Nelson Royal ... Has been working with several bulging disks in his lower back ... Maintains a strange love/hate relationship with the fans.

**338 QUINN MAGNUM** (6'5", 271, 8, 319) Magnum took a page from legends like Jerry Lawler and Harley Race this year concentrating on making a name for himself in one geographic area, concentrating on Pennsylvania ... Long-time ally with Samoan Samu ... Defeated Scottie Gash in a brass knuckles match, then teamed with Gash to win the NWA East tag title ... Determined to win the NWA title if it's ever defended in Pennsylvania.

**339 STEVE MADISON** (5'11", 217, 3, 393) "The Modern Miracle" has competed in IPW, NWA-TNA, CZW, and Fighting of World Japan, which has exposed him to a variety of styles and techniques ... Trained by Eddie Guerrero, Steve Keim, and Jim Delray ... Finisher is the rocket drop, a devastating brain buster off the top rope ... Also has faced Kensuke Sasaki and Kenzo Suzuki in Japan.

**340 CHRIS HERO** (6'4", 240, 5, 358) Trained by Dory Funk Jr., Les Thatcher, and Ian Rotten, which is as odd a mix as you're likely to find ... Formerly a hardcore competitor, Hero has developed into an extremely well-rounded wrestler ... Beat C.M. Punk in a best-of-three-falls bout that went 92:15 to win the IWA title in February 2003 ... Beat Jimmy Rave for the CZW iron man title in May 2004

... Has frequently appeared on *TNA Xplosion* ... Outstanding stamina is his greatest asset.

**341 MIKE BELL** (6'3", 280, 13, NL) Journeyman wrestler is making waves with his brother, Mike, in Ohio Valley Wrestling ... Has competed in WWE preliminary matches and was involved in a nasty fracas with Saturn a few years back ... Played football in high school and college ... Powerlifter has incredible leg strength and boasts a 675-pound squat, as well as a 475-pound bench press ... Has found new focus teaming with Mike.

**342 RAINMAN** (6'3", 227, 6, 384) Manager Jeff G. Bailey's "Soul Assassin" is coming off a banner year ... Held the NWA Wildside TV title for over a year ... After dropping the TV title to Caprice Coleman (whom he teams with in ROH), Rainman began concentrating on tag team wrestling, partnering with Azrael of The Lost Boys ... A versatile wrestler who can brawl, fly, or mat wrestle, making him a triple threat.

**343 ARCH KINKAID** (6'1", 226, 4, 362) Some say "Intellectual" Arch cuts the best promos in all of New England ... Made John Walters regret ever claiming to be the "top dog" in Chaotic Wrestling ... Attacked Walters with an array of dog toys and then forced him to eat dog food ... Beat Walters for the Chaotic heavyweight title in March ... Has been seen on *Velocity* several times this year ... Feuding with Maverick Wild ... Hosts "The Kinkaid Compound" interview segment.

**344 FRANK MURDOCH** (6'1", 285, 17, 399) The 17-year veteran is a co-owner of California's Pro Wrestling IRON along with Mike Modest and Donovan Morgan ... Former APW universal heavyweight champion ... Frequently teams with Bart Blaxton in IRON and teamed with "Hawkeye" Shane Kody throughout 2003 ... The only thing he likes more than winning a match is the celebratory beer afterward.

**345 RAY GORDY** (5'11", 218, 4, NL) The son of Freebird Terry Gordy has been wrestling in Pro Wrestling NOAH and NWA Wildside ... Like his father, possesses incredible natural strength, but is in better physical condition ... Uses his power for a variety of suplexes and power bombs ... Held the NWA Wildside junior heavyweight title ... Scheduled for another lengthy tour of Japan, as well as dates in ROH ... Famous last name should open doors.

**346 MARK BELL** (6'1", 240, 4, NL) OVW powerhouse boasts a 500-pound bench press and a 650-pound deadlift ... Competed in football, track and field, and boxing in high school ... Has formed an effective tag team with big brother Mike Bell ... Mark has more stamina than his brother and usually is the workhorse of the team ... Learning the ins and outs of tag team wrestling from Jim Cornette, which will certainly help both the Bells in the coming years.

**347 BRANDON K** (5'10", 202, 6, 337) Indecisiveness has hurt this NWA East competitor in recent months ... Briefly became a rulebreaker because he felt he was overshadowed by Justin Idol ... Teamed with Dirk Ciglar in NWA East and Wildside, and was scouted by NWA-TNA ... Got cold feet and backed out of a potential gig in TNA ... Seemed to have lost his heart for wrestling as a rulebreaker ... Finisher is a variation of the Michinoku driver.

**348 JUSTICE** (5'10", 175, 3, NL) The mysterious man with the Kabuki-styled face paint outlasted the field to win the 2004 Jeff Peterson Memorial Cup ... Defeated Chris Hero and Roderick Strong in a three-way in the finals of that event ... Finisher are the 450 splash and the trifection moonsault ... Trained in karate since age eight ... Won the NWA Florida tag team title with Mikey Tenderfoot ... Recently competed in CZW's Best of the Best tournament.

**349 DEVON STORM** (6'2", 232, 12, 122) Formerly known as Crowbar in WCW ... Also wrestled at Tempest in NWA-TNA ... Has wrestled all over the world, but now tends to wrestle close to his home in New Jersey for the most part ... A trained physical therapist ... Wrestled several dark matches for WWE in late-2003 ... Has held several singles and tag titles during his career, most notably the WCW hardcore and ECWA tag team titles.

**350 GLEN OSBOURNE** (6'1", 260, 15, 272) Veteran powerhouse has been a "PWI 500" staple since 1994 ... Spent the past year touring the East Coast independent scene ... Feuded with Larry Zbyszko over the WWWA U.S. heavyweight title ... Over the course of his career, Osbourne has faced Mick Foley, Edge, Christian, and Test ... He is widely considered to be a strong ring general who understands ring psychology like few others ... Surprises opponents with a high dropkick.

**351 SINN** (6'2", 228, 5, NL) Nashville fans got a good look at the man who thrilled Canadian fans in Border City Wrestling and Neo Spirit Pro Wrestling ... Re-formed New Church (with Slash) under the management of Father James Mitchell earlier this year ... Advanced to the semifinals of the NWA tag title tournament ... Actually a very accomplished singles competitor ... Very unusual look makes him stand out ... Also an accomplished artist.

**352 STANDING THUNDER** (6', 236, 6, NL) Hailing from the Studblanket Indian Reserve, Standing Thunder competes in OVW and throughout Canada under the name Wavell Starr ... Scored a pinfall victory over Jerry Lynn in POW last year, which ranks as his career highlight ... Also competes in Stampede Wrestling ... Feuded with Bolin Services in OVW ... Wahoo McDaniel and Chief Jay Strongbow were two of his early influences ... Faced Rave, Rene Dupree, and Jim Neidhart this year.

**353 RAPID FIRE MALDONADO** (6'2", 241, 6, 348) A mainstay in the Pennsylvania independents, including the IWA, WXW, and World-1 ... Toured Japan with Zero-One ... Has an extensive background in the martial arts ... Although he often competes as a heel, he sometimes garners cheers for his wrestling ability ... Has feuded with Steve Corino in several promotions, but neither man truly dominated any of their feuds ... Has obtained black belts in three different forms of karate.

**354 ARIK CANNON** (5'7", 207, 3, NL) "The Anarchist" is making waves in IWA Mid-South and Midwest Pro Wrestling ... Finishers of choice are the burning hammer and the total anarchy ... Style is heavily influenced by *puroresu* ... His move list includes several of Japanese origin, including the glimmering warlock (shining enzuigiri) and exploder suplex ... Two-time MPW cruiserweight champion ... Scored a huge win when he beat "American Dragon" Bryan Danielson on July 31.

**355 ROD STEEL** (6', 210, 4, 370) "The Miami Pound Machine" is coming off a brutal feud with Mikey Tenderfoot ... Has won the light heavyweight, tag team, TV, and heavyweight titles in IPW ... Known for his off-the-cuff promos and gift of gab ... They say Rod is usually heard before he's seen since his lips are always flapping ... Has wrestled Spike Dudley in WWE dark matches and has appeared on *NWA-TNA Xplosion* against David Young and Tony Mamaluke.

**356 MIKE TAYLOR** (5'10", 220, 1, NL) Taylor spent four years in the Marine Corps before moving from Hawaii to Louisville to train in OVW ... His Marine training was good preparation for what he faced at the OVW Training Center ... Dedication and intestinal fortitude are his greatest assets ... Played football in high school and college and wrestled in high school.

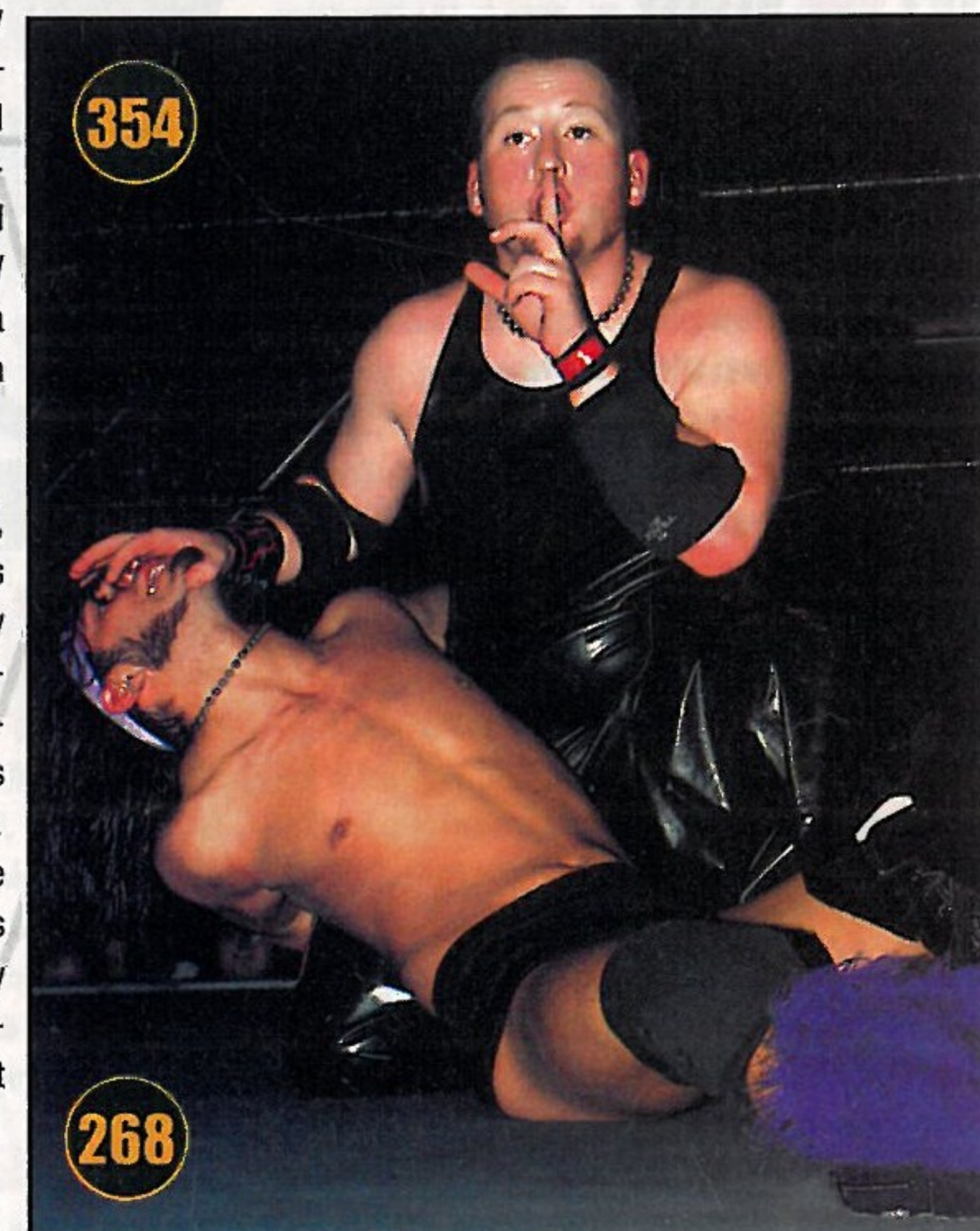
**357 RENO** (6'4", 250, 4, NL) "The Black Pearl" is the latest member of the South Pacific Samoan family to try his hand at wrestling ... A cousin of The Rock and nephew of Peter Maivia ... Trained by Afa the Wild Samoan ... He and his cousin, L.A. Smooth, won the WWC tag team title during a tour of Puerto Rico ... Calls his finisher the pearl jam ... If bloodlines mean anything, Reno is destined for success.

**358 MAHONEY** (6'2", 260, 12, 275) The chairwielding master can still be found wrestling on cards throughout the East Coast, mainly working for Jersey All Pro Wrestling and USA Pro Wrestling ... Has dropped considerable weight since his days in ECW and looks to

be in great shape ... Appeared in NWA-TNA, teaming with The Sandman ... Was unsuccessful in his shot at Samoa Joe's ROH title on a joint ROH/JAPW show.

**359 MANA** (6'4", 320, 3, NL) The big man broke Billy Kidman's record as the fastest ever graduate of the Wild Samoan Training Center, graduating in just 60 days ... Named WXW's best wrestler in 2001 and 2003 ... Has faced a veritable who's who, including Tito Santana, Bam Bam Bigelow, Tommy Dreamer, Sandman, Goldust, and Rikishi ... Feuded with The

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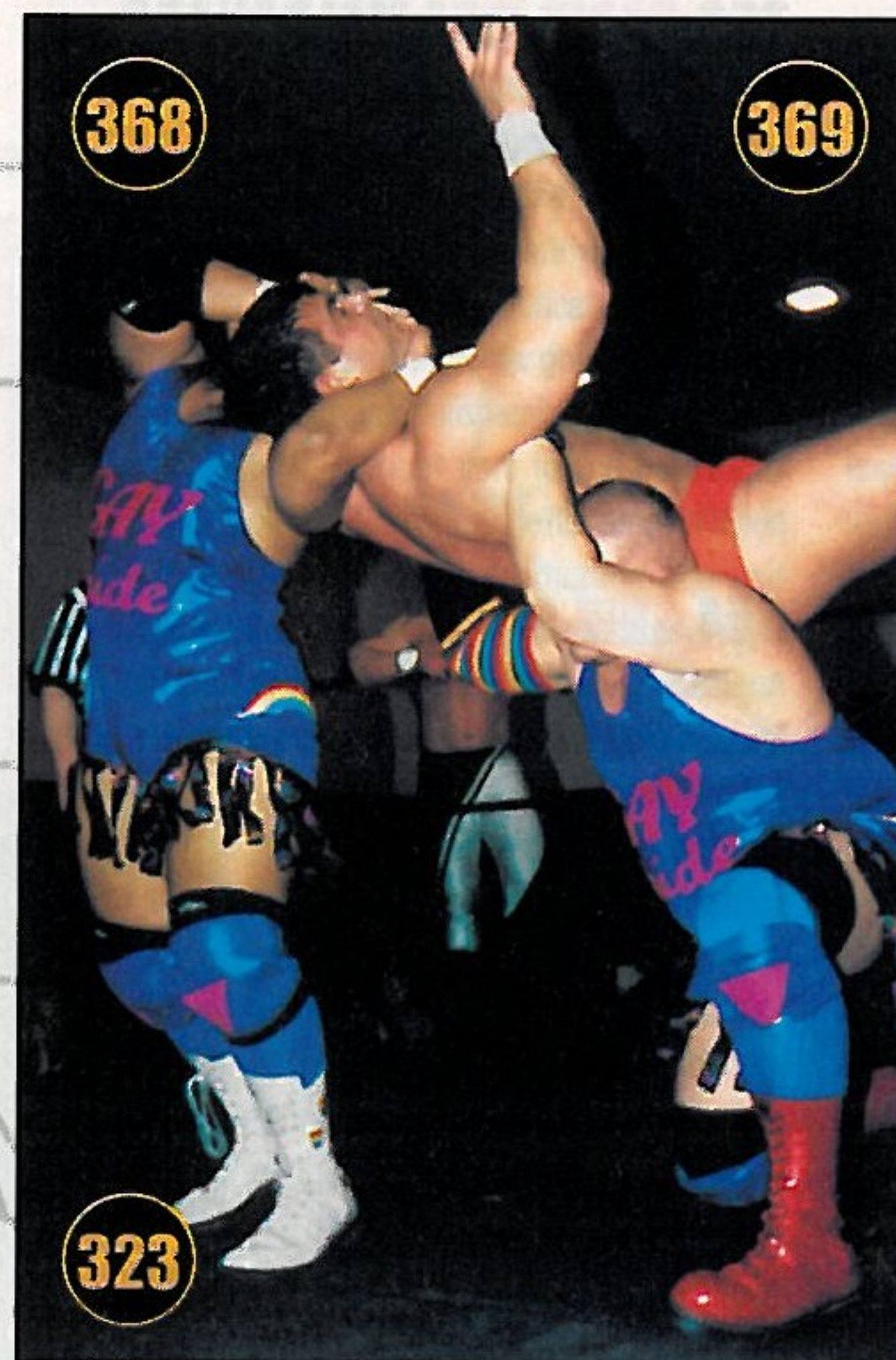
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Extreme Horsemen in Florida ... Size and work ethic could land him in WWE someday.

**360 ERIC PRIEST** (6'3", 220, 5, 376) Traded the AWA title with Evan Karagias this year ... Despite his good looks, the "Underwear Model" has a sweet tooth and loves gobbling down doughnuts ... Originally trained by Ace Steel and Danny Dominion ... Has wrestled for several Midwest indies, including IWA Mid-South and Steel Domain Wrestling ... Wrestled several dark matches for the WWE recently ... Calls his neckbreaker finisher the kiss of death.

**361 SETH SHAI** (6', 225, 5, NL) Actually set a record for the number of titles held throughout Texas and the Southwest independents over the past five years ... The most old school wrestler this side of Steve Corino, which gets him plenty of heat from fans and his fellow wrestlers ... Home promotion is the NAWA/DFW, where he holds the heavyweight title ... Trademark symbol is a panther.





**362 JACK XAVIER** (5'9", 220, 3, NL) Makes up for his lack of size with the heart of a champion ... Home base is the FWA in England ... Lost a loser-leaves-town-for-six-months match and returned under a hood as JX ... Not the most subtle disguise ... Almost won the All-England title from the Zebra Kid, but the decision was reversed when FWA officials realized who was under the mask ... Has beaten Homicide, E.Z. Money, and Mike Whipwreck.

**363 ROB BEGLEY** (6', 220, 2, NL) Promising OVW talent says he eats, sleeps, and breathes wrestling ... Played soccer in high school ... Begley is a student of the sweet science of wrestling and has been working to hone his mat wrestling skills ... Usually teams with Mike Taylor ... Insists on facing the best competition available in order to improve, and has had his hands full with the likes of Sean O'Haire and Nova.

**364 BROCK SINGLETON** (6'3", 265, 4, 352) Ridiculously powerful competitor has a bad attitude and hot temper ... Competes in several East Coast promotions ... Opponents have said his power bomb feels like being in a car wreck ... Coming off a wild feud with Shane Shadows that saw Singleton run down Shadows in the parking lot after a card ... Valet is the lovely Sasha ... Toughest opponents have included Buff Bagwell, Van Hammer, and Necro Butcher.

**365 JOHN RAMBO** (6'4", 265, 16, 289) President of the House of Pain Wrestling Federation ... Trained by Afa and Rocky Johnson ... Hardcore brawler was a former high school All-American football player and offensive tackle at Lehigh University ... Usually competes in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland, and Virginia ... Took part in a gory 30-man barbed wire battle royal ... Deserves more credit as a wrestler than he usually gets.

**366 ROBIN KNIGHTWING** (5'8", 228, 4, 387) "The Sexy Monkey" is one of the most popular competitors in Ontario, New York, and Pennsylvania ... Trained in the Hart Family Dungeon ... Frequently tours the United Kingdom, where he was named International Wrestler of the Year by a British Web site ... Part of the All-Knights, along with Joey Knight and Kevin Grace ... Appeared in the horror film *Enter The Zombie King*.

**367 GILLBERG** (6', 227, 14, 245) Who could have predicted Dwayne Gill's career as Gillberg would outlast that of the real Goldberg? ... Languished in the WWF preliminary ranks during the 1990s where he frequently teamed with Barry Hardy ... Sticks around the Mid-Atlantic areas these days, though he did briefly reappear in WWE last year ... Finisher is his version of the spear, which is more like a face-first trip ... More popular—both with fans and fellow wrestlers—than the guy he emulates.

**368 BUFF-E** (5'10", 220, 7, 459) The larger member of the ambiguous Christopher Street Connection, along with Mace Mendoza ... Regularly competes in ROH and also has wrestled for Zero-One, World-1, Jersey All-Pro, JCW, WXW, and ICW ... Calls his finisher the lickety-split ... He and Mace defeated Simon Diamond and Striker in a match where the loser had to wear a dress and accompany the winner as dates to a wedding reception in USA Pro ... Not Diamond and Striker's finest moment.

**369 MACE MENDOZA** (5'8", 200, 7, 455) "Man Candy" is one half of ROH's flamboyant Christopher Street Connection ... And you thought Rico was effeminate ... Though they're often seen as comic relief, the CSC has faced some topnotch competition ... Wrestled for the NWA light heavyweight tag title in Japan's Zero-One ... Mace is a former Long Island Wrestling Federation triple crown champion ... Holds wins over the Extreme Horsemen and the Outkast Killers ... Finisher is the Dirty Sanchez.

**370 SUPER HENTAI** (5'5", 155, 6, 359) Former student of puroresu legend Hayabusa has lost momentum from last year when he looked unstoppable ... Feuded with Alex Shelley for several months and didn't fare well against Shelley's rulebreaking tactics ... Also feuded with Soldier from Japan's WMF promotion ... Won IWC's inaugural Super Indy tournament in 2002 ... Has wins over Christopher Daniels, C.M. Punk, and Jerry Lynn, which shows just how much talent he has—when he's focused.

**371 MIKE THE MIZ** (6'1", 210, 2, 441) Parlayed his exposure on MTV's *Real World* into a nice,

little wrestling career ... Is training at Rick Bassman's Ultimate Pro Wrestling University in Los Angeles ... Can often still be seen on MTV on their *Road Rules/Real World* competition shows ... Grew up in Parma, Ohio, idolizing The Ultimate Warrior, Shawn Michaels, and Triple-H ... A solid talker, but he still needs some polishing in the ring.

**372 JOEY KNIGHT** (5'8", 185, 4, 374) "The Joe-Verine" is part of the All-Knights, along with Robin Knightwing and Kevin Grace ... The team invokes the "Freebird" rule, meaning any two can compete as The All-Knights ... Often challenges opponents to prematch dance contests ... Maintains an on-again, off-again relationship with star pupil Phoenix ... Finishing move is the stacked suplex, a move in which Knight stands on Knightwing's shoulders and suplexes his opponent off the top rope ... Competes in WXW, Neo Spirit, ESW, and Far North Wrestling.

**373 K.C. THUNDER** (6', 265, 15, NL) Claims to be the new Tennessee Stud after defeating Robert Fuller in 2003 ... Trained by master wrestling tactician Nelson Royal ... Made his pro debut in 1989, losing to his mentor, Royal ... This year, Thunder has competed in Iron Ring Wrestling, Southern States Wrestling, Carolina Championship Wrestling, and North American Championship Wrestling ... Old school Southern heel with strength to spare.

**374 ACE DARLING** (6', 230, 12, 356) The winner of the very first Super 8 tournament was a large part of Prince Nana's evil Royal Decision until recently ... Veteran competitor who also competes in several New Jersey independents as well as ECWA ... Beat Prince Nana for the ECWA Mid-Atlantic title, but lost it back to the Prince in a lumberjack match in May ... Briefly held the ECWA tag title with Striker.

**375 T. RANTULA** (6'7", 350, 12, 343) The massive brawler has been ranked in the "PWI 500" for 11 straight years now ... Competes primarily for the International Wrestling Cartel and Far North Wrestling where he has been heavyweight champion for four years ... One of the most intimidating wrestlers anywhere ... Had a bloody feud with New Jack this April ... Has appeared on WWF and WCW TV ... Currently in the midst of a violent feud with Brock Singleton.

**376 DELIRIOUS** (6', 192, 4, NL) Mysterious masked man is very spastic and reptilian in his movements ... Known for sometimes snatching bugs out of the air and eating them, so at least he gets some protein ... Home base is Gateway Championship Wrestling ... Has competed in ROH, NWA-TNA, NWA Wildside, and IWA Mid-South ... Combines strong mat wrestling skills with wild high-flying moves ... Favorite moves include the stem cell research and the panic attack.

**377 JAPANESE POOL BOY** (6'1", 190, 5, 386) One of the most entertaining and unique characters in wrestling ... Always come to the ring to different music, wearing different outfits—but always with his Rising Sun mask on ... Also competes in CCW in Pennsylvania ... Though widely considered a comedy act, actually has strong mat wrestling skills and is a surprisingly effective brawler.

**378 MAC JOHNSON** (6'1", 200, 2, NL) Lafayette, Louisiana, native moved to Louisville straight out of high school to train at the OVW Training Center ... Idolized Curt Hennig and has patterned himself after "Mr. Perfect" ... A physical fitness fanatic, he has impressed the OVW trainers and fans with his tireless work ethic and willingness to improve his technical skills ... Is one of the more promising youngsters in OVW who does *not* have a developmental deal.

**379 JARDI FRANTZ** (5'9", 182, 7, NL) APW high-flier has been one of the top independent stars in California since 1998 ... A fan favorite throughout the West Coast ... Known as "The Fly Daddy," but "The Human Fly" would be even more appropriate ... Wrestled for Pro Wrestling NOAH in Japan ... Competed in the ECCW Pacific Cup tournament.

**380 T.J. POWERS** (6'1", 253, 15, NL) Trained by "Mr. Electricity" Steve Regal ... One year after finishing his training, Powers found himself in the ring with Brutus Beefcake in the WWF ... "Superstar" has won dozens of titles throughout his career ... Home promotion these days is Hoosier Pro Wrestling, but he continues to compete throughout the Midwest ... Mixes raw power with strong fundamental mat wrestling knowledge.

**381 NIKITA ALLANOV** (6'1", 230, 6, 363) The "Soviet Shooter" lists his height at 1.83 meters and weight at 110 kilos ... Survived a near-fatal car accident in June 2003 that nearly cost him his right hand ... Had two runs as NWA East champion in Pittsburgh ... Has been recruited by several shootfighting promotions but has turned them down to concentrate on pro wrestling ... Finishing move is the Red Scare piledriver, but he also uses the Russian sickle and Siberian stranglehold.

**382 CHEETAH MASTER** (6'1", 221, 14, 377) Considered to be the most popular wrestler ever to compete in the ECWA, which is really saying something when you consider ECWA has been in existence for 37 years ... Formed Team 1614 to challenge Prince Nana's Royal Decision ... The feud culminated with a steel cage match won by Team 1614 in November 2003 ... Overcame career-threatening knee surgery several years ago.

**383 BRUCE STEELE** (6'4", 245, 5, 390) NWA-Wildside and IPW competitor formerly was known as Agent Steele ... Has wrestled dark matches for both WWE and NWA-TNA ... Finisher of choice is the Steele

curtain, a spinning uranage slam ... Holds victories over Michael Shane, Chris Chetti, and Don Montoya ... Currently part of Ron Niemi's 911 Inc. ... Formerly managed by his "sex-retary" Tiffany ... Has held the IPW heavyweight and tag team titles.

**384 VITO THOMASELLI** (5'10", 180, 4, 383) Frequently wrestles for Pro Wrestling NOAH in Japan and California's Pro Wrestling IRON ... Moved to California to train at The Tetsu Academy operated by Mike Modest and Donovan Morgan ... Frequently teams with Salvatore Thomaselli as the Iron Saints ... Won the Midwest Championship Wrestling T-3 Tournament with Low-Ki ... His primary finishing maneuver is the Sicilian driver.

**385 ANTONIO THOMAS** (6'1", 235, 3, NL) "The Promise" always seems to have a championship belt around his waist ... Trained by Kevin Landry ... Competes throughout New England and is considered a good prospect in OVW ... Springfield, Massachusetts, native ... Has held the WFA heavyweight title and the EWA, NECW, CSWF, and GMW tag titles ... Finishing move is called the Promise land.

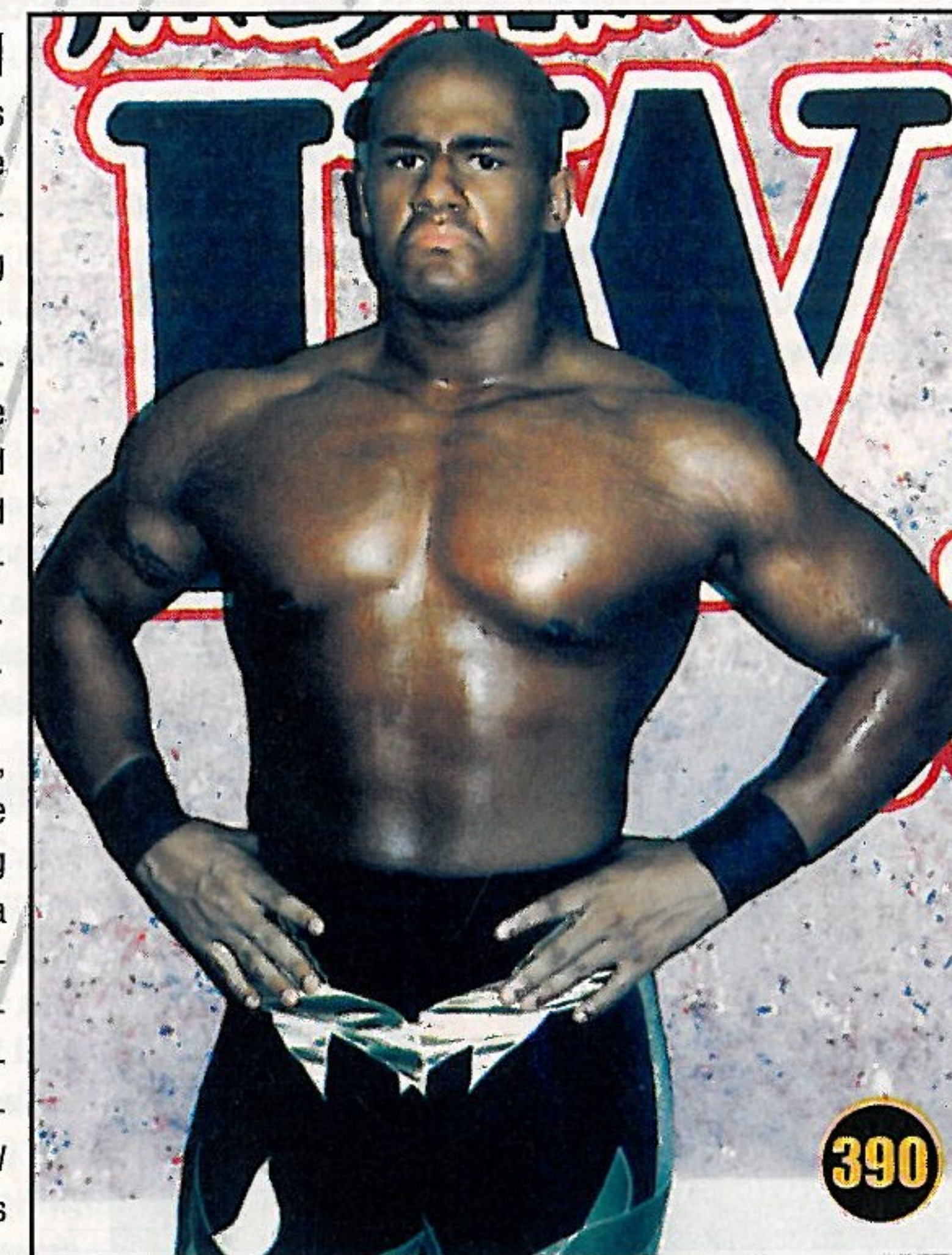
**386 CAPRICE COLEMAN** (6'2", 220, 5, NL) One of NWA Wildside's most popular and charismatic stars, he was out of action with an injury for almost a year ... Received a standing ovation when he returned to action ... Defeated Rainman to regain the Wildside TV title but had to vacate the title due to another injury ... Has appeared on *NWA-TNA Xplosion* and teamed with Rainman in ROH ... Has a long-running rivalry with Jason Cross ... Known for his wild, over-the-top promos.

**387 STEVE DeMARCO** (6'1", 220, 4, NL) Miami Beach native is a true beach boy ... When he's not pumping iron in the gym or preening in front of a mirror, he's usually out trying to impress the ladies on the beach ... Competes throughout Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Missouri ... Has also competed in Mexico ... Has held the CTPW heavyweight, tag team, and TV titles, as well as the NWA Southwest heavyweight title and PCW cruiserweight title.

**388 JONNY THE BODY** (6', 247, 4, 385) British grappler toured the U.S. and did as well here as he has in his homeland ... Arrogant rulebreaker's top rival is Maddog Maxx ... Teams with Shawn Harrigan as The Playboys ... Trained by renowned British judo champion John Brown ... Beat Shawn Christopher for the HCW title, but lost it just three days later ... Appeared live on the British TV show *The Salon* for a chest and armpit wax.

**389 DROPKICK MURPHY** (6'4", 215, 3, NL) Charismatic Pacific Northwest competitor shares his name with a popular Celtic punk band from Boston ... Teams with Vance Nevada as Canadian Flava ... Canadian Flava recently joined forces with Fidel Sierra and Fantasy in a war against the USA in Portland ... Made it to the second round of the ECCW Pacific Cup tournament, beating Major Hardway ... Has fared well in matches against The Ballard Brothers, Chance Beckett, Scotty Mac, and Scoot Andrews.

**390 FRED SAMPSON** (6'2", 250, 2, NL) New Jersey native has made several appearances in WWE, including wrestling in dark matches, appearing as police officer in a skit with the Guerreros, and serving a Druid for the Undertaker at WrestleMania XX ... Known as "BoneCrusher" ... Captured the IWF heavyweight title with a win over Kevin Knight ... Feuding with Biggie Biggs throughout the Jersey indy scene ... Finisher is the BoneCrusher slam, a running powerslam.



**391 ROCKIN' REBEL** (6', 245, 16, 420) Hailing from "Anywhere he damn well pleases," Rebel wrestles for 3PW, CZW, World-1, and other indy promotions ... Founded Rebel's Army in CZW ... Calls himself the "Original Ayatollah Of Rock And Rollah" ... Trained by The Rock 'n' Roll Express ... Known for his racist and sometimes X-rated promos ... Has wrestled in Japan, Korea, Mexico, Canada, and Puerto Rico ... Finisher is the Rebelizer, but he also relies on chair shots and the occasional fireball.



## 392 CHASYN RANCE (5'9", 171, 11, 464)

The "Independent Sensation" unified six junior heavyweight championships in Florida this year ... Formed The Straight Edge Army with C.M. Punk and Nosawa in MLW and feuded with Raven and his not-so-straight edge faction ... Usually uses the emerald froisen as a finishing move ... Suffered a nasty gash in the head that required 11 staples, but was back in the ring three days later ... Managed by Mr. Saint Laurent.

## 393 "NITE-STIC" EDDIE BROWN (5'11", 245, 8, NL)

Veteran Mid-Atlantic competitor was last ranked in the "PWI 500" in 1999 when he came in at 368 ... His finisher—a gut-wrench spinning power bomb known as the cellblock P—is feared and respected by friends and enemies alike ... Fulfilled a childhood dream when he competed in the Cumberland County Arena, where as a boy he watched legends like Ric Flair, Roddy Piper, and Wahoo McDaniel ... Also had success on a Canadian tour, including dates in Toronto.

## 394 JOHNNY OVA (6', 175, 3, NL)

Promising youngster has been trained by Ted DiBiase and regularly competes in DiBiase's PWA and several Northeast independents ... Also competed in ECWA as Joey Maxx where he held the tag title ... Signature move is the "Ova-easy" which has been described as a cross between the Million Dollar Dream and the camel clutch ... Managed by Bobby Riedel.

## 395 STERLING JAMES KEENAN (6'1", 204, 4, NL)

The man from Sunset Strip has stepped

up from the mid-card ranks to the main event in the International Wrestling Cartel ... Defeated Dennis Gregory for the IWC title in November 2003 ... Defended the belt against C.M. Punk before more than 1,000 fans ... Wrestled for Ring of Honor in the spring of 2003 and faced Japanese star Osamu Nishimura in Florida later that year ... Has faced Elix Skipper, Sonny Siaki, and Chad Collyer.

## 396 SCOTT SAVAGE (6', 207, 4, 395)

Student of Dory Funk Jr. is an eight-time Canadian unified junior heavyweight champion ... Spent most of the past year wrestling along the East Coast for several promotions ... Competed in the Maritime Cup tournament, beating the 300-pound Sonny Soprano and English star Mike Hughes ... However, Hughes then destroyed Savage's knee, forcing him to forfeit his spot in the finals ... Won a dance-off against a fake Scott Savage in NWA-CWF.

## 397 MR. OOH LA LA (5'10", 230, 16, 350)

Bumbling, Clouseau-esque Frenchman is the man ECWA fans love to hate ... Inspired by Sylvan Grenier, no doubt, created his own faction in ECWA as Less Resistance, which is appropriate ... Known for taking wild bumps, usually while trying to get into the ring ... Has feuded with the Japanese Pool Boy, Cheetah Master, and Xero among others ... Also wrestles in Pennsylvania's CCW.

## 398 MATT SYDAL (6', 190, 4, NL)

High-flier has been getting rave reviews everywhere he goes ... Had a wild feud with Delirious in IWA Mid-South ... Took A.J. Styles to the limit in a back-and-forth bout ... One of his favorite moves is an awesome springboard shooting star press ... Has also competed in NWA-TNA and ROH ... Accompanied to the ring by Daizee Haze in Wildside ... Hopes to play a role in the X division.

## 399 GEORGE SOUTH SR. (6', 240, 22, NL)

Wily veteran worked as a preliminary wrestler in the WWF and NWA/WCW throughout the 1980s and early 1990s ... Won several championships in the now-defunct Pro Wrestling Federation in the 1990s ... Feuded with Rick Morton for the EWA title this year, a title South has now held eight times ... Also held the UCW American heavyweight title ... Has wrestled (but usually lost to) some of wrestling's all-time greats.

## 400 BART BLAXON (6'1", 237, 5, NL)

Idaho native has the distinction of teaming with Crash Holly in his last match, facing The Ballard Brothers in October 2003 ... A true tag team specialist ... Teamed with Nigel McGuinness against Misawa and Ogawa in a match for the Pro Wrestling NOAH GHC tag title ... Is undefeated teaming with Frank Murdoch in Pro Wrestling IRON.

## 401 SHAWN DONAVAN (6', 225, 3, NL)

Regularly competes for the Massachusetts-based Chaotic Wrestling ... Teamed with Travis Blake to win the Independent Wrestling Federation tag team title ... Held the IWF American title for seven months ... Favors the sharpshooter as a finishing maneuver ... Coming off feuds with Biggie Biggs, Brandon Young, and Aaron Stride ... Wrestled a dark match for WWE in January ... Has found success in promotions across the Northeast.

## 402 THE BOUNCER (6', 285, 8, 446)

Burly former doorman still beating opponents with his "last call" superkick, "X-treme hangover" uranage slam, and the happy hour (a fireman's carry into a Michinoku driver) ... Voted Most Popular Wrestler of the Year in Mega Championship Wrestling ... Teams with Curt Fury in Klub X-treme ... Currently feuding with J.T. Lightning for the MCW U.S. title.

## 403 SAL THOMASELLI (5'9", 190, 2, NL)

One-half of Pro Wrestling IRON's Iron Saints, along with his brother, Vito ... The Saints are considered by many to be the top tandem on the California indy circuit ... Was named Supreme Pro Wrestling's Rookie of the Year for 2002 ... Previously wrestled as Sacred Dragon before teaming with Vito ... A talented mat technician who is able to fly when the need arises ... Is expected to work for NWA-Wildside in the near future.

## 404 SCOTTIE GASH (5'10", 210, 4, NL)

"Spotlight" Scottie has only one thing on his agenda—to tick off as many people as humanly possible ... Lost to NWA North American champion in an "I Quit" match ... Held the CWF heavyweight title for more than a year ... Was part of one of the most controversial episodes in recent NWA history when a match between Gash and Crusher Hansen was stopped and ruled out of control by officials ... Finisher is the Spotlight drop uranage suplex.

## 405 JEREMY V (5'10", 205, 3, NL)

Young NWA-Wildside competitor is known for his determination and never-say-die attitude ... Apparently won the TV title from Rainman in a cage match at a Wildside house show, but the decision was overturned ... Made Rainman submit in Wildside's War Games match ... Uses the VDDT (double underhook reverse DDT), the VKO (shining wizard in the corner), and the Flying V (450 splash) ... Good-looking prospect has appeared on *NWA-TNA Xplosion*.

## 406 J.C. BAILEY (6', 189, 3, 401)

Was taken under the wing of hardcore maniac Ian Rotten, but turned against his mentor ... Though Bailey and Rotten battled in several jarring "I Quit" matches, Rotten could never get Bailey to say those two little words ... Had a lengthy feud with Nate Webb ... Has held the IWA Mid-South heavyweight title so many times even he has lost count ... Finisher is a springboard legdrop.

## 407 FRANKIE CAPONE (5'10", 222, 8, 468)

"Uptown" Frankie is the current CEO of Double Deuce Inc. in NWA Florida ... Has traveled through the East Coast, Puerto Rico, England, and wrestled dark matches for TNA in an attempt to "find his smile" ... One of the most hated wrestlers in the Sunshine State ... Finisher is the K-5, a reverse stunner ... His unsavory and lewd behavior even makes promoters nervous.

## 408 C.J. O'DOYLE (5'11", 192, 2, NL)

Scrappy Irishman from Hell's Kitchen trained under "Pit-bull" Gary Wolfe ... Has competed in CZW and WXW and shown he can hold his own against brawlers, high-fliers, and outright maniacs ... Competed in the 2004 Jeff Peterson Memorial Cup tournament ... Won the WXW cruiserweight title in March ... Has faced the likes of Wolfe, Samu, Jack Victory, and Chris Hamrick ... Finishers are the west side sickle and Celtic crunch (top rope leg drop).

## 409 SCOTT PHOENIX (6'4", 266, 6, NL)

Phoenix has worked in more than 25 promotions across Texas and the Southwest ... In the past year, has dislocated his shoulder and suffered a concussion, but missed no time due to injuries ... Teamed with Drunk Adams to beat Khri Germany and Kit Carson in a cage match to win the XCW tag title in Denton, Texas ... Won the rights to the title King of the Barbed Wire ... Finishers are the chokeslam and the straightjacket.

## 410 K.C. BLADE (5'9", 225, 4, 434)

Forms The Dirty Rotten Scoundrelz with E.C. Negro ... Has held tag titles in JAPW, Jersey Championship Wrestling, USA Pro, PWA, and LIWF ... Feuding with All Money Legal in CZW and WXW ... Turned against Dan Maff and reformed La Familia with Maff's former partner Steve Mack ... Was out of action for a month after injuring his ankle in his CZW debut ... Made it to the finals of the Samoan Cup tourney in WXW.

## 411 JACOB LADDER (5'10", 240, 3, NL)

Hailing from "south of Heaven," Ladder has wrestled all over Texas, the Southeast, and throughout Mexico ... Held the South Texas Extreme Wrestling hardcore title for nine months ... Scored a win over Abdullah the Butcher ... Suffered a broken nose and a concussion in a title defense, but was back in the ring just two weeks later ... Finisher is a neck-breaker from the top rope that he calls purgatory.

## 412 J-ROCC (6', 227, 5, NL)

"Big Daddy Of Destruction" has intensified his training and become a smoother, more well-rounded competitor ... Competed in IWA Mid-South, UIPW, and NWA-TNA this year ...



Beat Adam Cage in a Mega Championship Wrestling match with a loser-wears-a-chicken-suit stipulation ... Held the NEPW triple-crown title under November 2003 ... Scored a big win Chris Candido in May ... Was voted MCW Wrestler of the Year for 2003.

## 413 MAJOR HARDWAY (5'9", 195, 5, NL)

Coming off a 16-month reign as NWA Canadian junior heavyweight champion ... One-quarter of Explicit Content, along with Vance Nevada, Disco Fury, and Dropkick Murphy ... Won the Pacific Cup Tournament, beating Scotty Mac and Jack Evans in a three-way match in the finals ... Signature moves are the about face cradle piledriver and the backwoods buster, a reverse Russian legsweep.

## 414 E.C. NEGRO (6'3", 220, 3, 430)

Jersey All-Pro standout has excelled against some top-notch competition this year ... Defeated Bam Bam Bigelow and Chris Candido in USA Pro Wrestling ... Teamed with K.C. Blade to beat The Ring Crew Express on the joint ROH/JAPW card ... Also faced Vader, Rikishi, and Terry Funk ... Main finisher is the end of story, but he also likes the DVD and swinging DDT ... Also competes in CZW and WXW.

## 415 SAL RINAURO (5'11", 184, 6, NL)

This NWA-Wildside competitor claims to be "the only two-time rookie of the year in the history of professional sports" ... Rigged Wildside's Internet year-end awards voting to get the rookie honor, despite wrestling for six years now ... Defeated Slim-J to win the Wildside junior heavyweight title ... Uses the Phoenix fury legdrops and his "better than Macho Man" elbow off the top rope ... Part of 3 Guys Who Totally Rule with Seth Delay and Fast Eddie ... Known as Mellow in ROH's Special K.

## 416 OMAN TORTUGA (6'1", 190, 5, NL)

One-half of the Outcast Killaz with longtime partner Diablo Santiago ... Cut his teeth in Rochester's New Millennium Wrestling, where he held the TV and tag team

titles ... Was always referred to as the "Evil Turtle" may announcer Scotty Bender ... Currently competes in ROH, NWA-Upstate, and World of Hurt Wrestling ... Mixes martial arts style, innovative high-impact moves, and a street-wise brawling background ... Lean, lanky build belies deceptive power and tendon strength.

## 417 EDDIE ATLAS (6'1", 225, 5, NL)

This 25-year-old up-and-comer is the top contender to the NAWA/DFW (Dallas/Fort Worth) heavyweight title ... Trained by Gen. Skandor Akbar ... Has competed for both WWE and TNA in the past year and has also toured Puerto Rico ... Held the IWA tag team title with Savio Vega ... Has also held the CTPW heavyweight and tag team titles ... Showed improvement during a tour of All Access Wrestling in California.

## 418 ROMAN (6'1", 232, 4, 449)

Three-time Independent Wrestling Federation heavyweight champion has been busy working WWE dark matches, including dates at Madison Square Garden, and serving as one of The Undertaker's druids at WrestleMania XX ... Defeated Mike Kruel for the National Wrestling Superstars regional title ... Finishing move is his Roman candle full-nelson slam ... Participated in a week-long session at the OVW Training Center in October 2003.

## 419 MIKEY TENDERFOOT (6', 180, 3, NL)

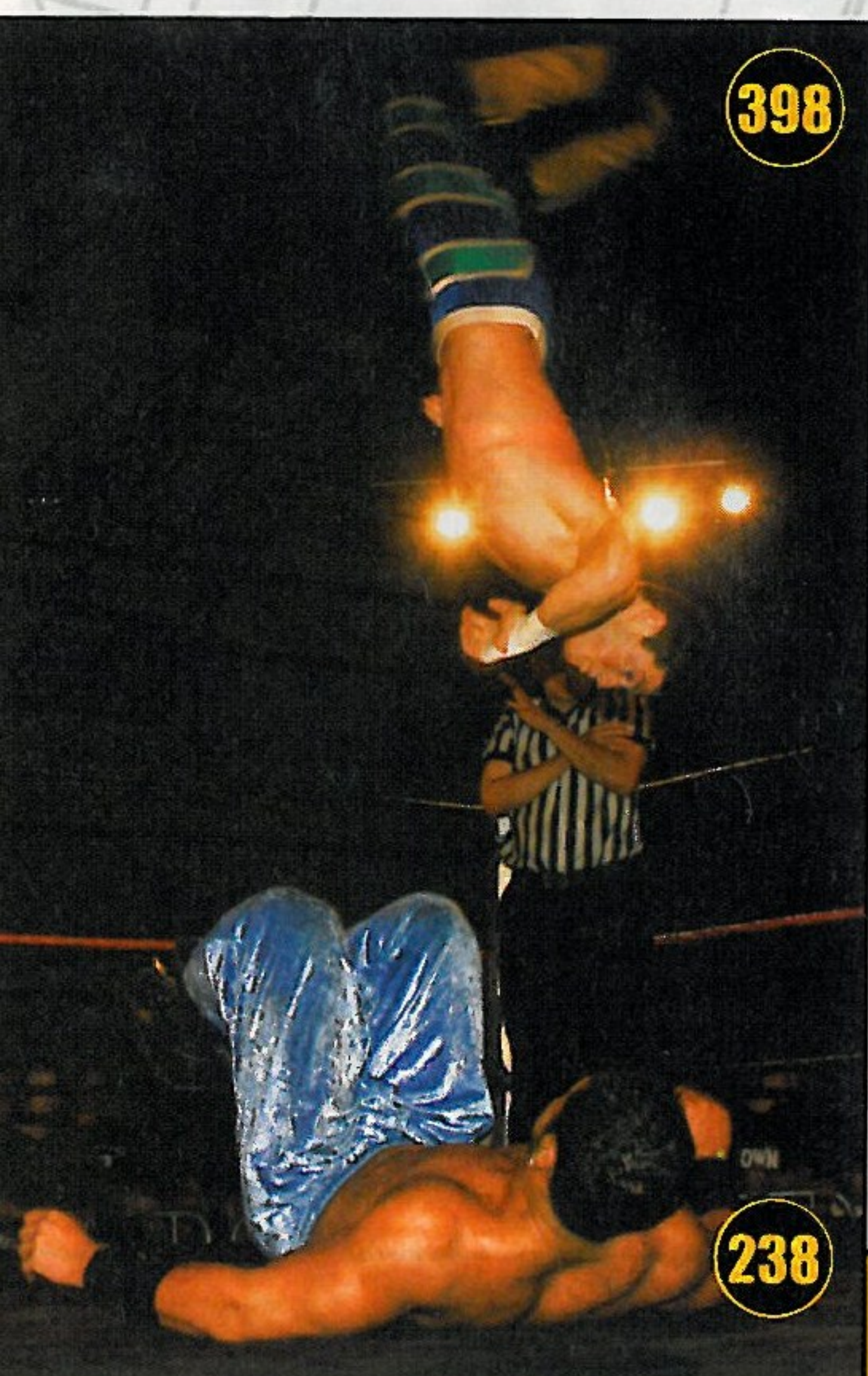
NWA Florida competitor started his training at age 16 ... Competed in NWA Florida, IPW, Wildside, TNA, JAPW, and CZW ... Formerly wrestled as the masked Seijin Akki ... Competed in the 2003 and 2004 Jeff Peterson Memorial Cup Tournaments ... Noted for his reckless high-flying ability ... Also incorporates Japanese style into his offense ... Feuded with The Alliance of Defiance in Florida ... Defeated Rod Steel in an intense "I Quit" match at "Reign In Blood II."

## 420 GLENN SPECTRE (5'10", 190, 4, NL)

Lost his mask last summer, but he gained even more respect from the fans ... Competes primarily for the International Wrestling Cartel in Pittsburgh ... Had two tag team title reigns, one with Devil Bhudakahn and one with M-Dogg 20 ... Recently completed his first tour of Japan ... A master submission wrestler, Spectre also likes to beat opponents with a burning hammer DDT he calls the ghostbuster.

## 421 ROBERT THOMPSON (5'11", 261, 10, NL)

All-Pro Wrestling (California) competitor says he has received offers from WWE, WCW, and ECW, but turned them all down so he can remain in his home base of Hayward, California ... Has held every title in his home promotion, but hasn't lost his motivation to be recognized as "the greatest wrestler in the history of APW" ... Known as "The Wheelman" in the tag team Above the Law with partner James Watkins.





**422 BILLY BAX** (5'10", 205, 4, NL) One-half of The Valedictorians with Rob Eckos ... Managed by Carlton P. Hightower ... Fans mock the graduation gown-wearing duo, but they have been a dominant force in ECWA ... Teamed with Eckos and Freak Nasty against the Maximos and Mike Fury in a wild tables, ladders, and chairs match in May ... Also competes in Continental Championship Wrestling ... Has feuded with Striker and Ace Darling, The Shaolin Wrecking Crew, and The Spanish Announce Team.

**423 GREG SPITZ** (6'3", 198, 5, 470) "Gregarious" Greg competes in Pro Wrestling World-1, where he represents his home promotion of IWA-PA ... Previously known for his lengthy feud with woman wrestler Simply Luscious, Spitz has adopted a more serious style ... Chasing Low-Ki's open weight title ... Uses a springboard dropkick and a full-nelson facebuster ... Also claims to have the best lariat in the business.

**424 HACKER** (5'11", 190, 4, NL) The bespectacled man from Silicon Valley has been one of the most versatile competitors in Ontario ... A mainstay in Border City Wrestling and Neo Spirit Pro Wrestling ... Has held the XWC and CIWA cruiserweight championships ... Had exciting feuds with Eric Young and Derek Wyld ... Finishes opponents with the firewall, or with a keyboard shot to the face that typically leaves keys all over the ring.

**425 RUSSELL SIMPSON** (6'1", 230, 5, NL) Hailing from "The Asylum," "Psycho" Simpson usually wrestles in his boxers and brings a doll to the ring as his inspiration ... Known for his devastating butt bump ... Actually can boast of a televised win over The Dudley Boyz, as he and Eddie Craven capitalized on interference from Evolution to beat them on *Raw* ... Serves as head trainer for Champions of Texas Pro Wrestling ... Managed by the lovely Nurse Venus.

**426 JOHNNY GRAHAM** (5'10", 222, 17, NL) Cagey veteran is still recognized as American Commonwealth champion, a title he has held for several years now ... Competes throughout the Northeast as well as the Tennessee-based Southern Wrestling Alliance ... Trained under Lars Anderson in Hawaii ... Toughest opponents have included Jim Duggan, King Kong Bundy, and Bill DeMott ... Main finishers are the Graham cracker and the sunset flip off the top rope.

**427 BOB EVANS** (6'3", 235, 12, 400) Don't make any sausage jokes about "Brutal" Bob ... Two-time New England Championship Wrestling heavyweight champion has been with the promotion for four years ... Trained by Gino Caruso and Jeff Costa ... Considered one of the toughest competitors on the New England scene, due to both his experience and pure tal-

ent ... Feud with Maverick Wild yielded some of the best matches in NECW history, including an epic submission match in October 2003.

**428 MICHAEL SAIN** (6'6", 300, 4, NL) The massive youngster won the NECW heavyweight title from Maverick Wild on April 25 ... Formerly known as "Psycho" Mike Osbourne until he came under the influence of his "advisor," Alex Crowley ... Tremendously powerful, Sain has channeled his aggression into a brutal force that has been unstoppable throughout New England ... Has also wrestled for the ECWA.

**429 EDDIE GUAPO** (5'11", 205, 3, NL) Widely traveled youngster has competed for several prominent independent promotions, including World-1, WXW, ROH, Jersey Championship Wrestling, and USA Pro ... Trained by Homicide, so you can be sure he's plenty tough ... Teamed with Low Ryda as Los Lunatics and won the WXW tag team title by beating Moon-dogs 2000 ... Toughest singles opponent to date has been Sonny Siaki.

**430 DIABLO SANTIAGO** (6', 200, 5, NL) Santiago is the strong, silent member of the Outcast Killaz, along with Oman Tortuga ... The two have been teaming for more than three years ... Such longevity is rare with indy teams these days ... The Killaz don't discriminate as they're equally apt to use their East Coast killer or their West Coast killer finishers ... Have held the tag titles in NMW, WOHW, WOHW Fusion, and BPW ... Feud with The Ring Crew Express goes back to the beginning of all four men's careers.

**431 J.J. PEREZ** (5'5", 176, 6, NL) Returned from career-threatening back surgery in better shape than ever ... Considered to be the most popular wrestler in APW, where he holds the World Internet championship ... An exceptional mat wrestler and also a skilled aerialist ... Favorite finisher is the shining wizard ... Though he frequently gives away height and weight to his opponents, Perez still manages to win his share of matches.

**432 DON BASHER** (6', 290, 19, NL) The "Dangerous Bull" has held the WCWO heavyweight title a record 17 times ... Also spent several months as WCWO commissioner ... Feuded with Indiana Kidd and Rob Ramer throughout the Midwest ... One of the top fan favorites in WCWO ... A veteran brawler and power merchant ... At his best when he controls the pace of a match ... Feuding with P.T. Hussla for the WCWO heavyweight title.

**433 BIO-HAZARD** (6', 225, 5, NL) Trained by Jose Lothario ... Sensational technical wrestler has competed in ROH, NWA Wildside, and in a few WWE dark matches ... Home promotion is River City Wrestling ... Had an ongoing rivalry with Michael Shane in ROH ... Had a thrilling contest against Blue Angel at the



RCW/All-Japan joint card in December 2003 ... Favorite hold is the cattle mutilation.

**434 RORY FOX** (5'10", 220, 5, 445) Briefly considered giving up wrestling, but his career got a huge boost when HWA Commissioner Patrick Black named him as the secret weapon in The Black Militia ... Still managed by Black and is the centerpiece of the Militia ... Has held the HWA cruiserweight, tag team, and heavyweight titles ... Has feuded with former Militia members Deuce and Matt Dillinger ... Native of Watkins, Iowa.

**435 PHANTOM LORD SPIRO** (6', 237, 4, NL) One-half of the Phantom Lords tag team with Slayer ... Has held the IWF, ACW, and GCWA tag team titles ... A graduate of Shawn Michaels' Texas Wrestling Academy in San Antonio ... Defeated Dusty Wolfe to win the IWF heavyweight title after Slayer was sidelined with an injury ... Was a standout in a recent camp organized by Jim Cornette in OVW ... Signature finisher is the Saturday night piledriver.

**436 SUPREME LEE GREAT** (5'8", 220, 5, 463) The Pride of Crestwood High, Pennsylvania, has been competing throughout the Northeast ... Won the WXW cruiserweight title and was named that promotion's top cruiserweight for 2003 ... Teamed with The Dynamic Sensation in the Wild Samoan Cup Tag Tournament ... Debuted in the ECWA in April ... That same month, he also was installed as commissioner of WXW ... Also has toured Japan, Guam, Korea, and Hawaii ... Signature finisher is the air Albright suplex.

**437 RYAN DRAGO** (6'1", 210, 3, NL) Pro Wrestling IRON competitor was trained by American Dragon, then furthered his studies under Mike Modest and Donovan Morgan ... Biggest match to date was when he teamed with Modest and Morgan to face Mitsuharu Misawa, Yoshinari Ogawa, and Sal Thomaselli ... A member of Team Kaos USA, along with Modest and Morgan ... Well-schooled in technical wrestling and brawling ... Shining wizard is his main finisher.

**438 ROB MCBRIDE** (6'1", 280, 19, NL) Known as "The Bull" ... Has wrestled all over the Southeastern circuit ... Based out of the CWF Mid-Atlantic promotion ... Burly brawler often surprises his opponents with an occasional scientific maneuver ... People forget that McBride has wrestled a tremendous range of opponents in his career and has learned plenty of tricks along the way ... Dangerous veteran is a perennial contender to any championship he pursues.

**439 JEFF STARR** (6'2", 205, 5, 469) "Mr. Spotlight" continues to shine in upstate New York ... Home promotion is World of Hurt Wrestling in Albany, but he also has appeared in ROH, the UWA, and TSW ... Has appeared on WWE TV in matches against Jaime Noble and Haku ... Has been managed by Kenny Casanova, Pat Piper, and Libby ... Main finishers are the swanton splash and the superkick.

**440 T.L. DALTON** (6'1", 195, 1 NL) One-half of the A+ Squad with partner J.T. Smith in the Heartland Wrestling Association ... Tried to pattern his high-risk offense after that of his hero, Shawn Michaels ... Blessed with a tall frame and wide shoulders, he could probably pack on another 25 pounds without having to change his style ... Has held the HWA cruiserweight and tag team titles, as well as the BFW tag title ... Finisher is the remix, a top-rope neckbreaker.

**441 ERIC XTASY** (6'2", 269, 6, NL) Orange County native is a major name in the International Wrestling Cartel ... Returned from a shattered leg last year, only to be betrayed by his lifelong friend J.T. Rodgers ... Suffered a serious shoulder injury in the ensuing feud ... Won the IWC title by beating Dean Radford ... Finisher is a sitout piledriver ... IWC's Most Popular Wrestler of the Year for 2003 is now one of the most hated men in the promotion.

**442 FLEX FENOM** (5'10", 222, 5, NL) Chiseled rulebreaker frequently teams with Aidean ... Got his start in the National Wrestling League in Maryland and West Virginia, but is now branching out across the East Coast ... Very nearly beat Mike Quackenbush for the PWE heavyweight title in April ... Finishing maneuver is the Flex-plex ... Equally interested in learning new technical moves and ways to circumvent the rulebook.

**443 THE BRUISER** (6'2", 305, 6, 433) Like most wrestlers known as "The Bruiser," this Maryland standout has earned a reputation as being one of the

stiffest, nastiest competitors around ... His hair-trigger temper has cost him several key matches by DQ ... A five-time Maryland Championship Wrestling heavyweight champion ... Known for his Bruise-mission finisher and his arsenal of bone-jarring suplexes ... Toughest opponents have been Jerry Lawler and Shane Douglas.

**444 MAGIC** (5'10", 350, 12, NL) Man-monster is one-half of The Shaolin Wrecking Crew with Suba ... The Crew is one of the wildest teams on the independent circuit ... Magic is the veteran of the team ... Has spent the past year in the ECWA, where the Crew has feuded with The Valedictorians and Night Shift ... Always carries a giant shoe on a chain, but its significance is unknown ... Very popular brawling team, in the vein of The Bushwhackers ... Competed in several promotions, including JAPW, SSCW, and NECW.

**445 JOHNNY MAXX** (6'4", 225, 4, 419) "Maximum" is a former ECWA tag team champion with his brother, Joey, who has since left the promotion ... Very popular with fans ... Strapping youngster's in-ring skills have improved noticeably during the past year ... Competes as a singles wrestler in Pennsylvania's Continental Championship Wrestling ... Native of Philadelphia ... Primary finisher is the maximum overdrive.

**446 KEVIN KNIGHT** (6'4", 240, 8, 475) Seventh consecutive listing in the "PWI 500" ... Finisher is the Knight-fall a version of the Razor's edge ... Former IWF champion has wrestled several WWE dark matches, including a bout against A-Train at Madison Square Garden ... Feuded with The Honky Tonk Man ... Also a well-respected trainer, mentoring the likes of Rob Eckos and Josh Daniels.

**447 JOHN CURSE** (5'9", 212, 7, 467) Former member of ECW's Team Taz had a busy year in his dual role as wrestler and commissioner of NYWC ... Participated in that promotion's wildest event ever, the "psycho circus," in which he retained his commissionership by grabbing a briefcase off a 15-foot pole ... Feuded with Livewire (now known as Mike Mondo in OVW) and Mike Mayhem ... Finisher is called the hex appeal, a sitout piledriver.

**448 JEROMY SAGE** (6'1", 215, 5, NL) Calls



himself "The Most Educated Man In Professional Wrestling" ... Graduated alongside Spanky, American Dragon, and Garrison Cade from Shawn Michaels' Texas Wrestling Academy in San Antonio ... Competed for WCW and WWE in dark matches, but his home promotion is River City Wrestling in Austin, Texas ... Like his classmates, Sage is technically sound and innovative.

**449 SUBA** (5'11", 350, 3, NL) Slightly larger than his Shaolin Wrecking Crew counterpart, Magic, but both are tremendously powerful (if unkempt) ... One of the most popular teams in the ECWA ... The

Crew frequently teams with fellow fan favorite The Japanese Pool Boy ... Usually tries to overpower opponents with stiff punches, kicks, and slams ... Good for short bursts of offense, but not as effective as a singles competitor as he is a tag competitor.

**450 ROBBIE ELLIS** (5'9", 188, 37, NL) Claims to be "America's Sexiest Sexagenarian" ... "Like a fine wine, I just get better with age," Ellis says ... Received coverage in *Sports Illustrated* and on *The Today Show*, which chronicled his dual life as pro wrestler and as New England's premiere art dealer ... Competes all over New England, and in Pennsylvania, Nevada, and Minnesota ... Still uses a top rope splash as a finisher—even though he qualifies for a senior discount.

**451 APOLLO KHAN** (5'10", 215, 2, NL) "The Man With The Golden Smile" is one of the most fearsome competitors in California's Pro Wrestling IRON ... Vocal in his belief that most wrestlers are too lazy ... "Ain't nobody ever gave me a damn thing. I had to take whatever I needed by force," he says ... Powerful brawler known for his stiff and aggressive style ... Native of Oakland, California ... Uses a vicious northern lights suplex.



**452 MAJOR DeBEERS** (5'11", 270, 28, 409) The old hate-monger from Sun City is still competing in the Carolinas ... Competed in AWA, NWA, and WWE during the 1980s and 1990s ... Has held several Carolina-based titles ... Managed by Count Grog ... His finisher consists of an old-fashioned foreign object to the head ... Still uses "the people's ass" as a set-up ... Feuded with Rick Morton and Jimmy Valiant this year.

**453 BOYCE LeGRANDE** (6'2", 222, 7, NL) "Bad Boy" is a former member of The Westside Playaz with Robert Thompson, but the two ended up feuding ... The Playaz were a tag team force who had a long unbeaten streak ... Wrestled J.J. Perez for the APW Internet title ... Calls his finishing move the Bad Boy blockbuster ... A versatile competitor who is equally adept at brawling and mat wrestling.

**454 MOZART FONTAINE** (5'9", 201, 5, 414) ECWA mainstay has feuded with just about everyone in that promotion, including Cheetah Master, the Maximo brothers, and Japanese Pool Boy ... Has had a long love/hate relationship with Mr. Ooh La La, which isn't surprising considering they're too of the most self-absorbed competitors anywhere ... Feuded with The Patriot in Continental Championship Wrestling ... Classical music lover is constantly primping his flowing brunette locks.

**455 DON BRODIE** (6'6", 330, 12, NL) Two-time former NWA National heavyweight champion missed most of 2003 with severe knee injuries, but returned with a new passion this year ... Immense man is incredibly powerful ... Competes for NWA Battlezone in Mississippi ... Beat Lord Humongous to win his fourth NWA Mississippi heavyweight title ... Managed by "Deacon" Danny McLain ... Serves as the muscle for McLain's stable of wrestlers.

**456 SLIM J** (5'9", 187, 2, NL) Controversial NWA Wildside competitor bears a striking resemblance to Eminem ... Claims he is the future of junior heavyweight wrestling, and has skills to back up his boasts ... Crotch-grabbing antics may irritate older fans, but his impressive skills have made him a hero to the younger set ... Is also a member of Special K in ROH and has competed in the TNA X division ... Finishers include the anger management and the 4:20 splash.

**457 HALLOWICKED** (6'1", 192, 2, 490) The mysterious masked man with the pumpkin stem growing out of his head now teams with UltraMantis to form The Dark Breed in CHIKARA ... Won the 2002 CHIKARA Young Lions Cup tournament ... Considered the most feared *rudo* in the promotion ... Trained by Mike Quackenbush and Reckless Youth ... Signature hold is

the monster mash, an octopus hold into a sunset flip ... Also has competed in CZW, IWA Mid-South, and Jugalo Championship Wrestling.

**458 RUFFHOUSE RIVERA** (5'10", 205, 22, 440) The man with the fuzzy dice recently celebrated his 22nd year in ECWA ... Smart wrestling and few high-risk moves have helped him remain in strong physical condition and stay near the top of his game ... Longtime tag team partner of Inferno ... Spent the year feuding with The Valedictorians and Mozart Fontaine ... A popular fan favorite who remains on the periphery of the ECWA title picture.

**459 JOSEPH** (5'6", 170, 6, 427) Has had a busy year, competing in CZW's Hallowmass tag team tournament (with Samir), NWA Wildside, and NWA-TNA ... Makes regular appearances in Mexico and has adopted much of the Luchador style as his own ... Has held the SPW and NAWA-DFW tag team and the NEW cruiserweight titles ... No longer uses his full name, Joey Corman.

**460 ROD BELL** (6'2", 252, 12, 431) One of the last proteges of Dick the Bruiser ... Prominently featured in a story in the *Morris (Florida) Daily Herald* ... Has competed in many prominent promotions, including WWE, AWA, and the NWA ... Has wrestled Shawn Michaels, Kevin Nash, Edge, and Undertaker ... He and manager Bill Kennedy currently are politicking for the upcoming presidential election, but for some reason, neither was asked to participate in any of the Bush-Kerry debates.

**461 BAM** (6', 170, 1, NL) Trained by former UFC and NWA champion Dan Severn ... Rookie is very strong in mat based, submission style grappling, but is also well-schooled in aerial wrestling ... Uses an inverted swanton BAM as his finisher ... Blew out his knee against Dean Jablonski and was sidelined for three months ... Teamed with MiZark Butler to win the Midwest Wrestling Alliance tag title ... Competes throughout the Michigan indy circuit.

**462 KRAZY K** (5'10", 185, 3, NL) Has held the OMEGA cruiserweight title since May 24, 2002, successfully defending it against challengers like Jeff Hardy, A.J. Styles, and Matt Stryker ... Claims to be "Your New Addiction" ... Has held the cruiserweight title in every promotion he has ever worked for ... Finishing move is the overdose, a reverse DDT with a leg drop ... Wrestles throughout the Carolinas and often tours the Northeast and Florida.

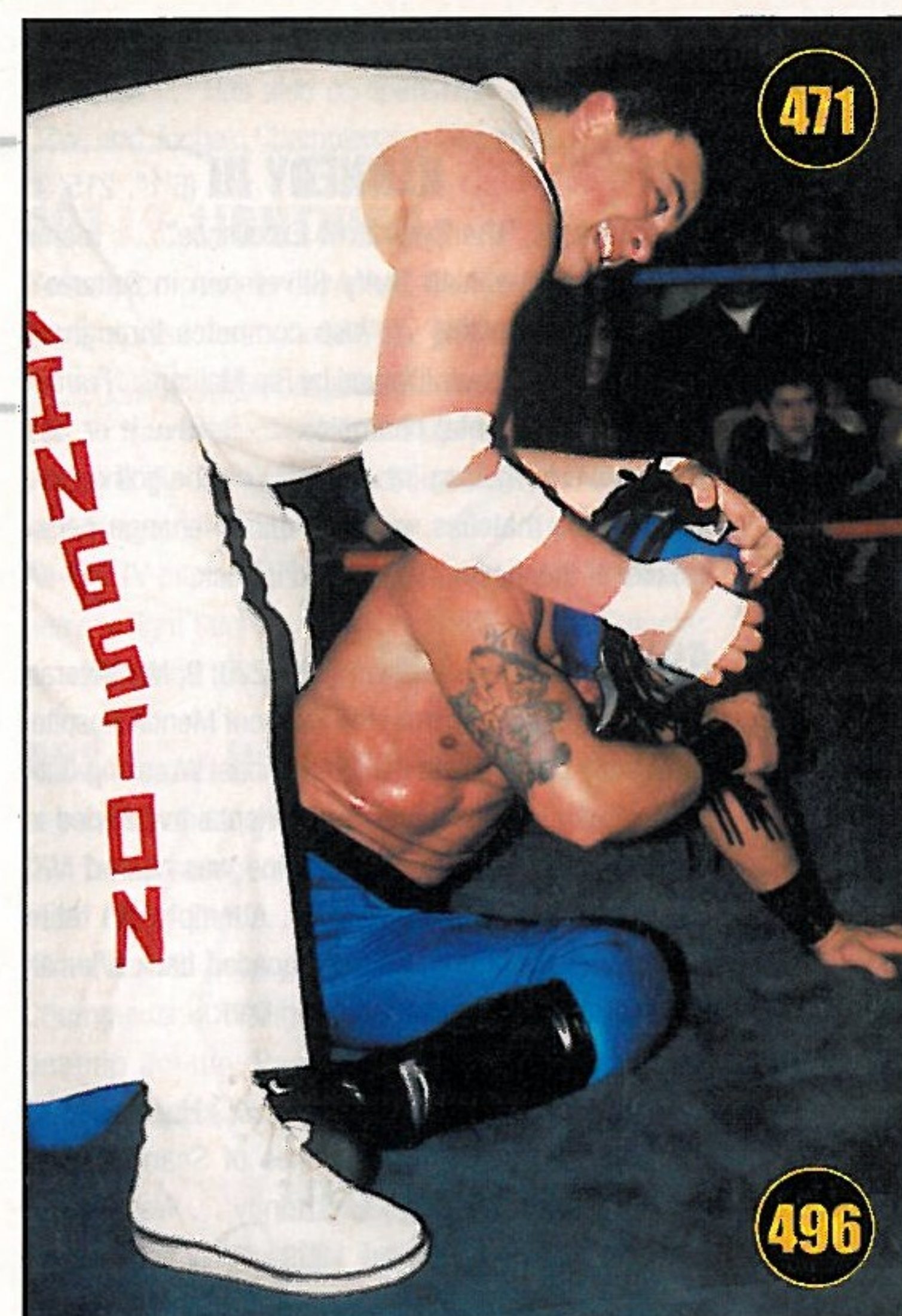
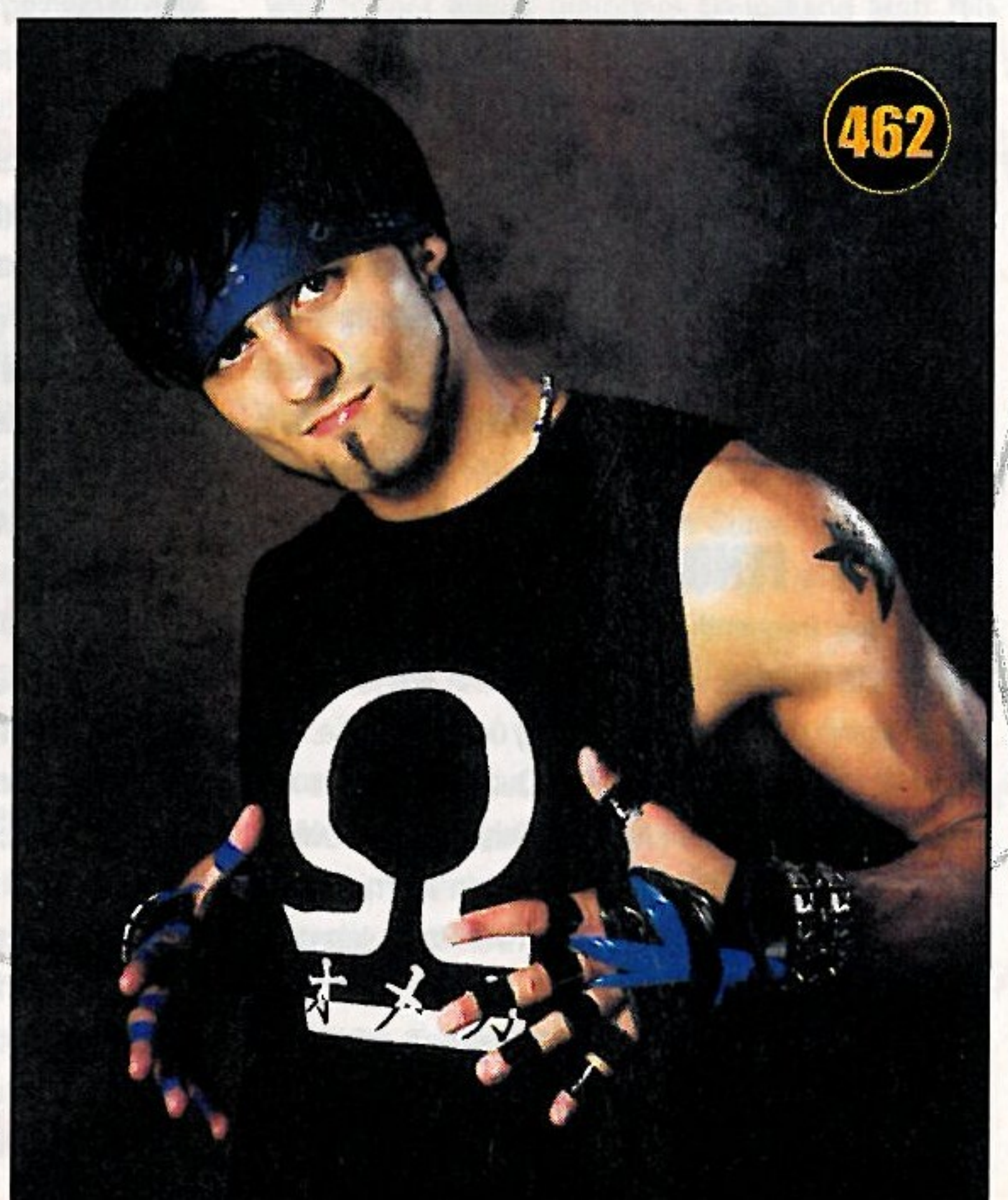
**463 BILLY BLACK** (6'1", 225, 11, NL) Veteran Southwest competitor

started the year angry that younger wrestlers weren't giving him the respect he deserves ... Lost a retirement match to Matt Storm, but it didn't stick ... Finishing move is the bad bay, a reverse spinning neckbreaker ... Known as "Bad Boy" ... Won the PWF-NE heavyweight title ... Has noticeably improved his conditioning and appears to be in the best shape of his pro career.

**464 VINCE VICALLO** (5'11", 216, 7, NL) "Good Time" Vince Vicallo is one of the most popular wrestlers in Chaotic Wrestling ... Former Chaotic Wrestling New England champion suffered through a brief slump after dropping the title in a four-way against Arch Kinkaid, Luis Ortiz, and Billy K ... Has been seen on both *Heat* and *Velocity* during the past year ... Finisher is the Good Times roll neckbreaker.

**465 HOOK BOMBERRY** (5'6", 165, 2, NL) One of the fastest rising stars in Pro Wrestling IRON, Bomberry has competed for every major promotion in California ... Also has competed for ECCW in Canada and at the invite-only Cauliflower Alley wrestling event in Las Vegas ... Known for his lightning-quick mat work and submission style ... Held the SPW/NAW tag team title with Mad Mikey (Crash Holly) ... Was named Pro Wrestling IRON's Most Improved Wrestler of the Year.

**466 J.T. STAHR** (6', 201, 1, NL) He and T.J. Dalton comprise the A+ Squad in the Heartland Wrestling Association ... Catchphrase is "Ya huh," which nicely complements Dalton's catchphrase of "Nuh uh" ... Surprisingly, they get along quite well, despite their apparent disagreements ... A former HWA cruiserweight and tag team champion, and a former BFW tag champ ... Favorite moves are the chocolate thunder (version of the unprettier) and the Stahr struck (flipping neckbreaker).



**467 SHADOW JACKSON** (5'9", 259, 3, NL) Bulky powerhouse is the brute force behind The Urban Assault Squad in NWA Wildside ... Outspoken in his racist beliefs, Jackson always complains that "NWA Whiteside" is holding him down ... Teams with Nemesis ... Loves to rile up the fans by spitting and wiping his feet on the Confederate flag ... Carries a black noose around his neck to remind fans of "what their relatives did to his people" ... Favorite move is the powerslam.

**468 GUTTER** (6', 232, 7, 492) Eccentric New York City native is guided by a gutter he carries to ring-side ... He calls the gutter Cindy ... Also hears voices ... Graduated from the Can-Am Wrestling School ... Won the Border City Wrestling tag team title with Hacker ... Has also held the MWA and NWA Great Lakes heavyweight titles ... Main finishing move is the Diamond Gutter ... Past winner of the Douglas Chevalier Memorial battle royal in Border City Wrestling.

**469 MEGA** (6'7", 380, 3, 478) The massive Mega was the enforcer in Prince Nana's Royal Decision in ECWA ... Took part in the wild cage match between The Royal Decision and Cheetah Master's Team 1614, during which he hit the side of the cage, causing one whole section of the cage to collapse and fall to the floor ... Immensely powerful competitor who would do better with a good manager.

**470 TEJAS** (6'2", 250, 4, NL) Native American was the first-ever student of the NWA-Southwest Wrestling Academy to win that promotion's heavyweight title ... Competes throughout the Midwest and South, and also

has appeared in dark matches for WWE and NWA-TNA ... Won an eight-man tournament to claim the NFW title ... Toughest opponents have included Jim Duggan, Steve Williams, and Jake Roberts ... Beat Al Jackson for the NWA Southwest heavyweight title.

**471 EDDIE KINGSTON** (5'11", 228, 1 NL) This obnoxious rookie calls himself "The King Of Diamonds" ... Teams with Jack Marciano as The Wild Cards in CHIKARA ... Got his head shaved in May after losing to Gran Akuma and Icarus ... Idolized Eddie Gilbert as a child ... Trained by Mike Quackenbush ... Known for his ultra-stiff Yakuza kick and Kondo clutch submission hold ... Also competes in CZW, MPW, and IWA Mid-South ... Favors the exploder and uranage suplexes.

**472 JACK THRILLER** (5'8", 190, 5, NL) The "Serial Thriller" is making a name for himself throughout Michigan and Ohio ... Uses aggressive submission techniques to subdue opponents ... Trained by Dan Severn and Denny Kass ... Won the MWF (Ohio) cruiserweight title, the UWA lightweight title, and the MWA (Michigan) heavyweight title ... The innovator of the phantom driver ... Uses the Dragon sleeper as a tribute to Severn.

**473 EL TORNADO** (6'1", 220, 7, NL) Trained by Joe E. Legend, Carl LeDuc, and Scott D'Amore ... Also competes as Mark Bartolucci ... Wrestles all over Ontario and is a huge fan favorite in Border City Wrestling ... Teams with Tyson Dux in BCW ... Equally adept at cutting promos and wrestling ... Muscular competitor who can fly like a man 50 pounds lighter ... Has wrestled numerous WWE dark matches ... Usually uses the frog splash as his finishing move.

**474 DARIN CHILDS** (5'10", 205, 5, 499) Competed in Mexico's AAA under a mask as The Black Rocker ... Lost mask to Hijo De Sangre Chicano ... Career highlight was a double flaming tables match against Public Enemy's Johnny Grunge ... Feuded extensively with Enigma and Mike Dell throughout Texas and Louisiana ... Was named ASPW's Wrestler of the Year in 2002 and 2003.

**475 SCAB** (6'1", 220, 6, 444) Three-time SCW heavyweight champion has maintained a love/hate relationship with Count Grog's Brotherhood ... Has also held the SCW tag team and junior heavyweight titles ... Greatest moment of the past year was winning SCW's big 2004 battle royal ... Also competes in Southern indy promotions and throughout Pennsylvania and Massachusetts ... Finisher is the tornado bullfrog ... Currently feuding with Trailer Park Heat.

**476 XERO** (6'1", 360, 5, NL) Competed in 2003 and 2004 in the ECWA in Delaware and CCW in Pennsylvania ... Recently beat Mr. Ooh La La in a best-of-three falls "French Bastille" match ... Has feuded with Rob Eckos, Billy Bax, and Mozart Fontaine ... Has teamed with veterans Benny Soltz and Thunder ... Big, barrel-chested brawler is quite popular with the ECWA fans.

**477 DAVE SWIFT** (5'11", 230, 4, NL) Native of Vancouver, B.C., has competed in Stampede and throughout the Pacific Northwest ... Competed NJPW as The Swifter ... 450 splash and shooting star press usually spell the end of the match ... Teamed with Apocalypse to win the Stampede tag title, but quickly dropped the straps to Harry Smith and Kirk Melnyk ... Had a successful tour of England in 2003 and is expected to head back later this year.

**478 J-BUSTA** (5'10", 202, 5, NL) Native of Montreal claims to be the "Canadian Sensation" ... Has competed for the past year in the Delaware-based ECWA ... Feuded with Mozart Fontaine, Japanese Pool Boy, Johnny Maxx, and Mike Fury ... Teamed with Freak Nasty in the ECWA tag team summit in April ... Also wrestles for CCW, WXW, SSCW, and NECW ... Held the WXW cruiserweight title in early 2004.

**479 ENIGMA** (5'9", 187, 2, NL) Sometimes known as The Ultimate Aerial Death Machine ... Toured Mexico with AAA, wrestling under a mask as La Cara del Cerdo (which means "pig face" in English) ... Defeated Seth Shai in a ladder match to win the Southwest Wrestling Federation heavyweight title ... Dangerous high-flyer always willing to put his body on the line to inflict punishment on his adversaries ... Feuded with Darin Childs and Damien Bladestorm.

**480 SNATCH HAGGIS** (6', 240, 3, 477) Popular Scotsman moved from the old country to Virginia in 2000 to pursue a career in pro wrestling ... Has held several titles, including the KYDA Pro heavyweight and the House of Pain tag team titles ... Haggis was a runner-up in the Highland Games in 2000 ... Usually finishes opponents with what he calls the Loch Ness suplex, a pumphandle suplex.

**481 TOMMY SUEDE** (5'11", 201, 5, NL) Trained by Afa the Wild Samoan ... Rarely without a title belt ... A five-time WXW tag champion, two-time TV champion, and former hardcore and cruiserweight champion ... Also held the HWA light heavyweight title ... Feuded with Slyk Wagner Brown and Supreme Lee Great this year ... Wrestled Gene Snisky in a WWE dark match ... Favorite moves include the 450 splash, standing shooting star press, and kryptonite crunch.



**482 BULLDOG RAINES** (6'2", 270, 13, NL) Wild and crazy veteran is a charter member of Al Getz Enterprises in NWA Wildside ... While working for Memphis Championship Wrestling and the USWA, Raines was able to face a plethora of past, current, and future WWF/E wrestlers passing through Memphis ... Former tag team champion with Tank ... Known for his bizarre barking and for smashing opponents with a 40-pound chain attached to his dog collar ... Likes bloody brawls.

**483 BRANDON P** (6'2", 215, 4, NL) NWA Wildside tag team specialist was cheered by the fans for the first time in his career when his partner Jay Freeze was injured ... Teamed with Jeremy V as The Carolina Connection to win the Wildside tag title ... Dropped weight to compete as a junior heavyweight ... Uses a version of the F5 he calls the freetail to finish off opponents ... Has competed for NAWA Ring Champions and on *TNA Xplosion*.

**484 TERRY ALAN** (5'8", 206, 11, 415) Versailles, Kentucky, native defeated Mongoose to win the CWA (Kentucky) heavyweight title ... Survived a vicious feud with Maddog that saw the two wrestlers compete in thumbtack matches, barbed-wire matches, and finally in a Kentucky death match ... Was honored this year with a Jimmy Valiant Hall of Fame Award and a Dawghouse Wrestling Alliance Hall of Fame Award ... Has faced Bill Dundee, Valiant, Nunzio, and The Stro ... Finisher is a spinning DDT.

**485 BILLY BART** (5'10", 261, 10, NL) The "Bad Boy" has become one of the most hated wrestlers in the Midwest—and for good reason ... Bart can be absolutely merciless inside the squared circle ... Competes for WCWO, CWF, and RWF ... Defeated P.T. Hussla to win the WCWO title ... Nasty feud with former tag partner Johnnie Walker culminated with a "fans bring the weapons" cage match ... Feuding with The Country Boys in WCWO.

**486 LIL' CHOLO** (5'8", 187, 6, NL) Exciting second-generation competitor is the son of Southern California Lucha Libre veteran Cholo ... Made his pro debut at age 16 ... While obviously well-schooled in the Mexican style, has proven quite versatile and adapts well to American and European styles ... Competed in BAW's Golden Gate Invitational Tournament ... Primarily competes throughout California.

**487 QUINTEN LEE** (6'2", 224, 1, NL) The man known as "High I.Q." was the last Heartland Wrestling Association

cruiserweight champion and the first TV champion ... Claims to be wrestling's smartest man ... Consider him HWA's version of Lanny Poffo—only more successful ... Models himself after Ted DiBiase and Lance Storm, so of course he's a strong mat wrestler ... Favorite moves are the "That's Academic" triple kick, the empire leg submission, and the old-fashioned goubuster.

**488 BRUISER GRAHAM** (5'10", 265, 9, 492) Home territory is the Bruiser Wrestling Federation in Virginia ... Trained by "Boogie Woogie Man" Jimmy Valiant ... Big, burly brawler has faced Sid Vicious, Batista, and The Hardy Boyz during his almost decade-long career ... Like the original Bruiser, he hails from Milwaukee ... Has held the BWF heavyweight and tag team titles, as well as the TCW heavyweight and tag straps.

**489 FORSAKEN** (5'9", 187, 5, NL) The mysterious man from Detroit has become a fixture on Dory Funk Jr.'s *BANG TV* ... Teams with Yako "Sinn" Romero as The Freakshows of Faith ... Freakshows won the Funking Conservatory tag team title ... Formerly known as Slim Stevie ... Held the ICW (Alabama) heavyweight title and three of the four titles in the American Wrestling Federation ... Calls his finisher the "Where's Your Faith?" ... It's a corkscrew neckbreaker off the top rope.

**490 SETH DELAY** (5'10", 180, 3, NL) Trained by Rick Michaels at the NWA Wildside dojo when he was 15 years old ... Worked at McDonald's to pay his way through training ... Formerly known as Kid Kool ... Defeated former tag partner Sal Rinauro to win the Wildside junior heavyweight title ... Considered one of the brightest prospects on the Wildside roster ... Favorite

moves include the Kool krusher and the overnight sensation cradle DDT.

**491 CONRAD KENNEDY III** (6'1", 215, 4, NL) Known as "The Symbol Of Excellence" ... Teams with fellow blueblood Ruffy Silverstein in Ontario's Border City Wrestling ... Also competes throughout Michigan and Ohio ... Trained by Rip Malibu ... Former MWF Intercontinental champion ... Believe it or not, he's known for getting into fistfights on the golf course ... Ends his matches with the chump change neckbreaker or the money clip inverted leglock.

**492 SHIRLEY DOE** (5'10", 220, 9, NL) Veteran brawler says he hails from the Dixmont Mental Hospital ... Usually competes in the International Wrestling Cartel ... Had a long feud with Super Hentai that ended in a brutal Texas death match ... Doe was named IWC Wrestler of the Year for 2003 ... Attempted to retire due to knee problems, but was goaded back after an attack by former partner Sebastian Dark.

**493 DANGER** (6'4", 325, 9, NL) Huge veteran has collected wins over the likes of Sean O'Haire, Jimmy Snuka, and King Kong Bundy ... Was ranked in the "500" in 1997 and 1999 ... Nicknames include "The Albino Rhino," "The One-Ton Human Wrecking Machine," and "The Largest Man On The Planet" ... Finisher is the suffocation devastation, a double-handed choke-slam tiger bomb ... Has appeared on *Smackdown* and *Velocity* as Dave DeJohn ... Allied with infamous New York manager/karaoke king Kenny Casanova.

**494 SHANE SHADOWS** (6'2", 238, 12, 451) Former three-time Championship Pro Wrestling heavyweight champ has gone from being one of the promotion's most hated wrestlers to one its most beloved ... Much of that popularity came when he canned manager J.B. Righteous ... Typically competes in West Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania ... Feud with former partner Switchblade has lasted eight years now ... That's what you call bad blood ... Toughest opponents include Greg Valentine, Chris Candido, and The Masked Superstar.

**495 VENNIS DeMARCO** (6'2", 201, 2, NL) Vennis "The Menace" is part of The Mafia in All Pro Wrestling, alongside Big Sal Soprano and Chris Colioni ... Style is reminiscent of Mike Rotundo's ... Favorite finisher is the Italian neck tie ... Always brings a rose to the ring to give to a female fan at ringside, but he's rejected more often than not ... Extremely arrogant rulebreaker.

**496 GRAN AKUMA** (5'10", 199, 1, NL) High-flying masked man from CHIKARA has received a lot of attention with his Lucha Libre-inspired style and powerful kicks ... Teams with Icarus as F.I.S.T. ... His high crossbody is reminiscent of Rick Steamboat's ... Likes to use the Yoshi tonic high-speed pinning combination

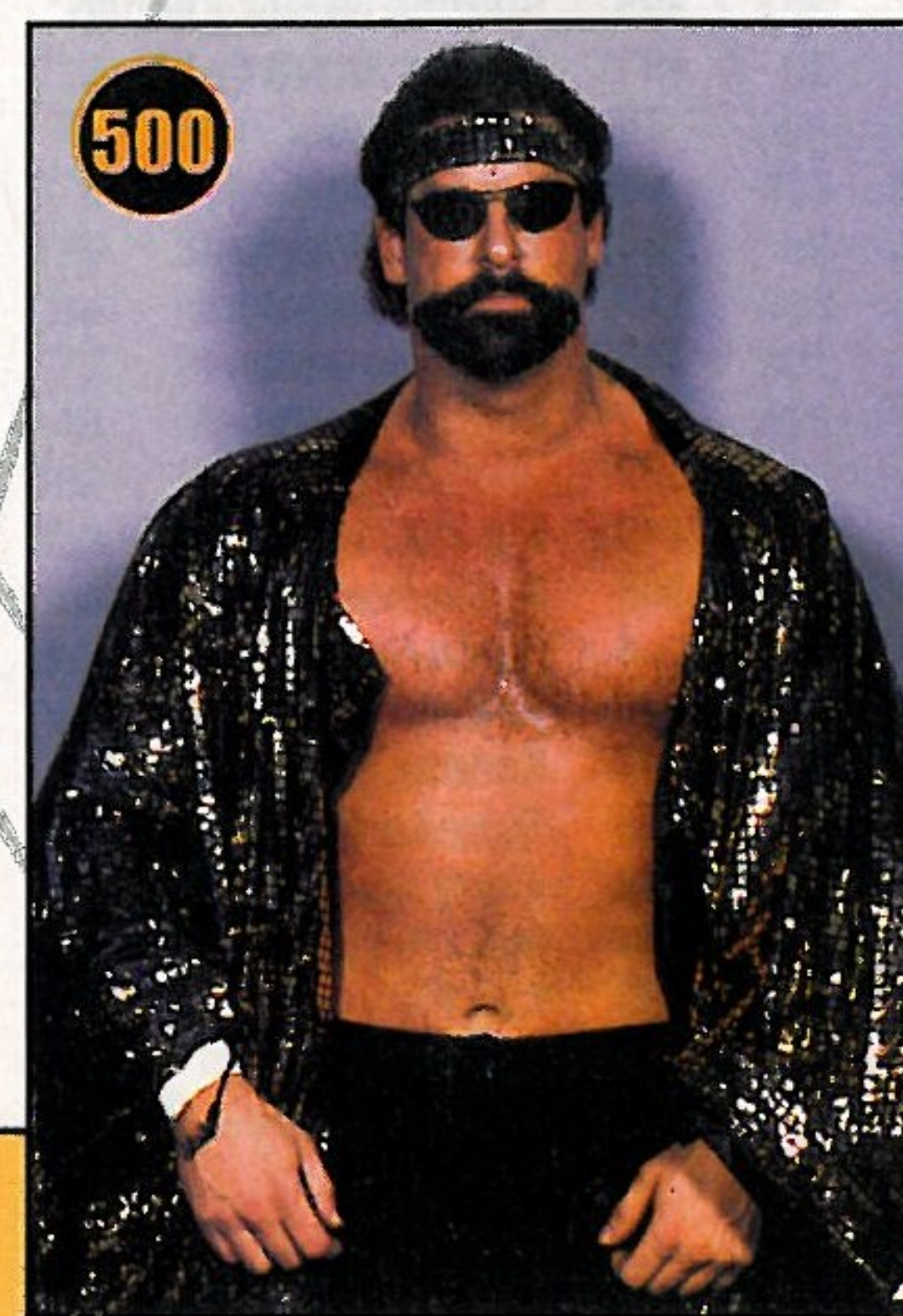
... Pet move is the Falcon arrow, made popular by Hayabusa ... Has also competed for IWA Mid-South, CZW, and Juggalo Championship Wrestling.

**497 J.T. LIGHTNING** (5'10", 238, 2, NL) Home promotion is Cleveland All-Pro Wrestling, but he competes throughout Ohio, Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee ... Has feuded with Buff Bagwell, Tracey Smothers, and Bobby Eaton ... Competed for TNA in a match against Monty Brown ... Held the Cleveland All-Pro TV title and the Mega Championship Wrestling heavyweight title ... Signature holds are the Crippler crossface and the crossface chicken wing.

**498 MIKE DELL** (5'10", 214, 6, NL) New Jersey native spent the majority of 2003 competing on the Texas independent scene ... Known as "One Man" Mike Dell ... Catchphrase is "It only takes 'One Man' to beat your ass" ... Won the American Championship Wrestling Texas heavyweight title by beating Johnny Rage ... Has feuded with Darin Childs, Enigma, and Lucha Libre legend L.A. Park.

**499 MISTER ZERO** (5'7", 205, 2 NL) Hailing from "Cubicle City," the middle-aged businessman is a cult favorite in CHIKARA ... Imagine a cross between Milton from *Office Space* and Mitsuharu Misawa, but wearing a mask ... Briefly teamed with La Parka and UltraMantis but both turned against Mr. Zero ... Always comes to the ring with a mug of coffee and the newspaper and often stops to read the business section in mid-match ... Finisher is his trademark last shaven unicorn drop.

**500 ROD STEELE** (6'6", 250, 14, NL) Seymour, Indiana, native was trained by Rip Rogers ... Made his debut back in 1990, but left the sport for several years ... Has become a cult favorite among the OVW faithful ... Often receives his biggest ovations for just entering the ring ... His wrestling style is a throwback to that of the early-1980s ... When he's not wrestling, Steele can be found motocross racing, swimming, or writing poetry.



## Farewell to the 500

The list of active wrestlers is always changing. Since last year's "PWI 500" was published, some wrestlers have migrated to different federations or changed their names. Others are now injured, inactive, or retired. Still others have been dropped from this year's survey for other reasons.

Keys are as follows (D) deceased; (DL) disabled list throughout a major portion of the year; (I) inactive; (NC) name change; (NL) not listed; (R) retired.

2-Dope (NL)	Nick Dinsmore (NC)	Ladies Choice (NL)	Rollin' Hard (NL)
Jonah Adelman (NL)	Dino Divine (NL)	Brian Lawler (NL)	Ian Rotten (NL)
Eric Alexander (NL)	Dominican Boy (NL)	Brian Lee (NL)	J.R. Ryder (NL)
Anarchy (NL)	Beau Douglas (NL)	Sean Lei (NL)	Samir (NL)
Paul Atlas (NL)	Tommy Drake (NL)	Brock Lesnar (R)	Chris Sanders (NL)
Andre Baker (NL)	Tommy Dreamer (R)	Stamp Lickage (NL)	Mike Sanders (NL)
John Balsamo (NL)	Earl the Pearl (NL)	Lightning (NL)	The Sandman (NL)
Ricky Banderas (NL)	Epi the Phat Samoan (NL)	Lobo (NL)	Ricky Santana (NL)
Travis Bane (NC)	Leif Erickson (NL)	Jeremy Lopez (NL)	Perry Saturn (NL)
Chance Beckett (NL)	Eric Everlast (NL)	Dr. Luther (NL)	Bart Sawyer (NL)
Bruiser Bennett (NL)	Flash Flanagan (NC)	Mace (NL)	Seven (NC)
Dash Bennett (NL)	Flat Face Jeremy (NL)	Mafia (NC)	Jaguar Vijay Singh (NL)
Billy K (NC)	Jodie Fleisch (R)	Majik (NL)	Shorty Smalls (NL)
Scott Bishop (NL)	Franky the Mobster (NL)	Malice (D)	Johnny Spade (NL)
J.P. Black (NL)	Danny Garmell (NL)	Spanky Malone (NL)	Spyder (NL)
Bobby Blaze (NL)	Ghostwalker (NL)	Tony Mamaluke (NL)	Chicky Starr (NL)
Bobby Badd (NL)	Glamour Boy Shane (NL)	Gino Martino (NL)	Michelle Starr (NL)
Adam Booker (NL)	Goldust (NC)	Masaaki Mochizuki (NL)	Stefano (NL)
Bronco (NL)	Ray Gonzales (NL)	Joey Maxx (NC)	Scott Steiner (NL)
The Bruiser (NL)	Dave Greco (NL)	E.Z. Money (NL)	Jonnie Stewart (NL)
Rey Bucanero (NL)	Hadrian (NL)	Monsta Mack (NC)	Stone Mountain (NL)
King Kong Bundy (NL)	Johnny Handsome (NL)	Don Montoya (R)	Lance Storm (R)
C.B. Cane (NL)	Crusher Hansen (NL)	Johnny Moss (NL)	Tony Stradlin (NL)
Hurricane Castillo (NL)	Jeff Hardy (NL)	Rich Myers	Rico Suave (NL)
Chakal (NL)	Don Harris (NL)	Navajo Warrior (NL)	Super Crazy (NL)
James Champagne (NL)	Ron Harris (NL)	Derek Neikirk (NL)	Superstar Steve (NL)
Dewey Cheatum (NL)	Hiroshi Hase (NL)	Rikki Nelson (NL)	Syxx-Pac (NL)
Chicano (NL)	Mikey Henderson (NL)	Akira Nogami (NL)	Tenacious Z (NC)
Wade Chism (NL)	Mark Henry (NL)	Nova Cain (NL)	Thunder (NL)
Jimmy Cicero (NL)	Crash Holly (D)	Chris Nowinski (I)	Trash (NL)
Dirk Ciglar (NL)	Genki Horiguchi (NL)	Sean O'Haire (R)	Uncle Ernie (NL)
The Godfather (NL)	Horshu (NC)	Atsushi Onita (I)	Romeo Valentino (NL)
Eddie Colon (NL)	Human Time Bomb (NL)	Luis Ortiz (NL)	Matt Vandal (NL)
Joey Corman (NC)	Chet Jablonski (NL)	Bull Pain (NL)	Paul Vaut (NL)
Qenaan Creed (NL)	Jamal (NC)	Payne (NL)	Victor the Bodyguard (D)
Scott D'Amore (I)	Nathan Jones (NL)	Miguel Perez Jr. (NL)	Bryan Wenzel (NL)
Dukes Dalton (NL)	Maxx Justice (NL)	Treach Phillips Jr. (NL)	Scottie Wrenn (NL)
Damaja (NC)	Kanyon (R)	Poison (NL)	Xavier (NL)
Doug Delicious (NL)	Kendo Ka Shin (I)	Amazing Red (NL)	Christian York (R)
Bill DeMott (R)	Tiger Khan (NL)	William Regal (NL)	Judas Young (NL)
Larry Destiny (NL)	Kenny King (NL)	Trevor Rhodes (NL)	
Chris Devine (NL)	Marshall Knox (NL)	T.J. Powers (NL)	
Tommy Diablo (NL)	Mike Knox (NL)	The Prophet (NL)	
Simon Diamond (NC)	Shiro Koshinaka (NL)	Preston Quinn (NL)	



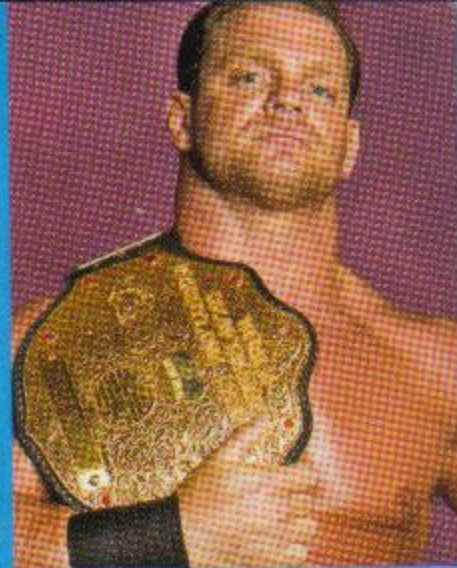
JULY 9, 2007

# People

**EXCLUSIVE  
PARIS  
SPEAKS**

## MY TIME BEHIND BARS

After 23 days in jail, she answers questions about her reckless behavior, her emotional breakdown and why people should believe she's changed



**WRESTLER  
CHRIS BENOIT'S  
SHOCKING  
MURDER-  
SUICIDE**

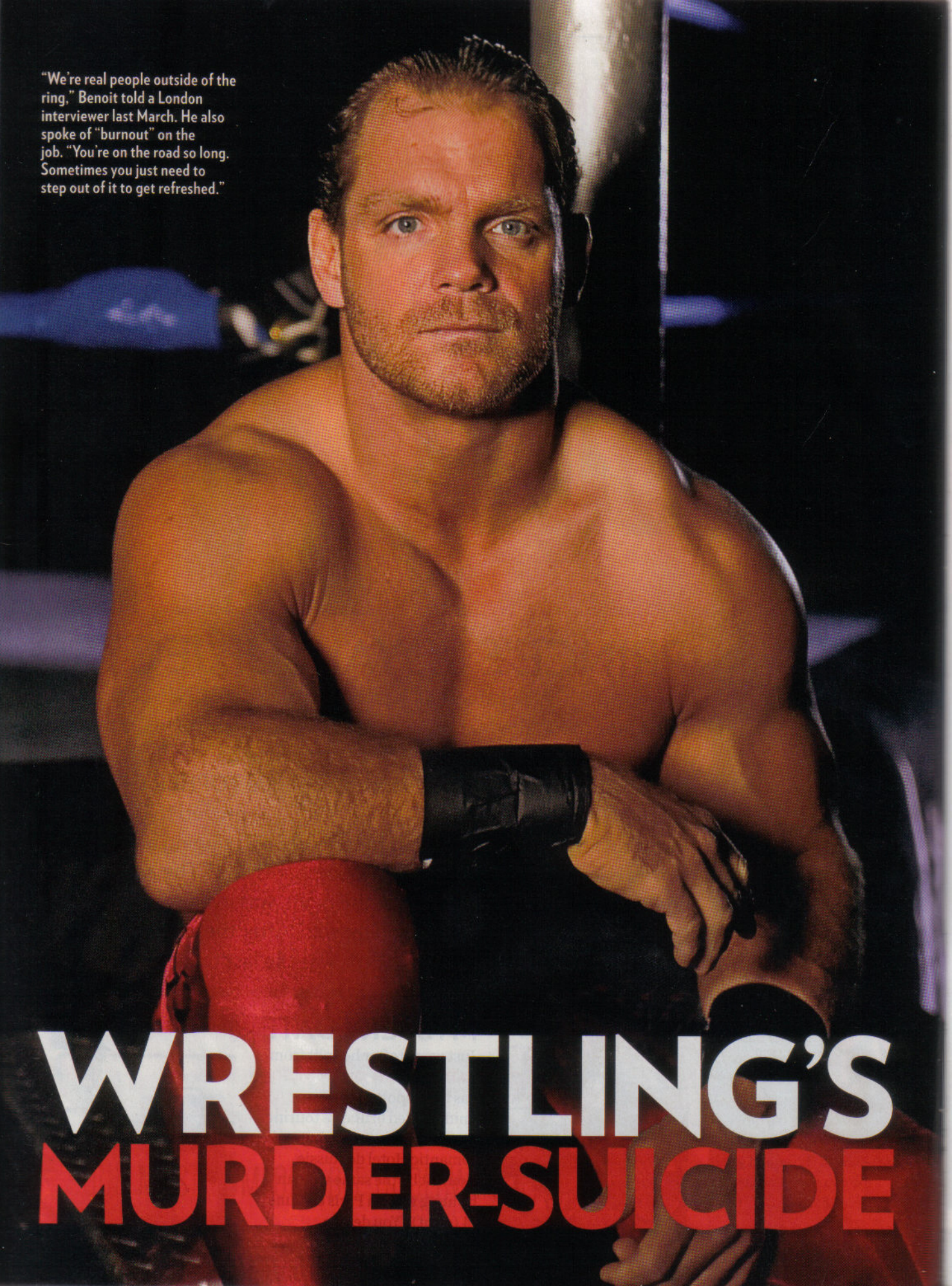


**TIGER'S  
BABY GIRL**



**WILL & KATE  
BACK  
TOGETHER**





"We're real people outside of the ring," Benoit told a London interviewer last March. He also spoke of "burnout" on the job. "You're on the road so long. Sometimes you just need to step out of it to get refreshed."

# WRESTLING'S MURDER-SUICIDE



# WHAT CAUSED WWE CHAMP CHRIS BENOIT TO KILL HIS WIFE AND 7-YEAR-OLD SON AND HANG HIMSELF AT HIS HOME GYM?



CHRIS AND NANCY BENOIT



Of all the bad-guy scenarios played out in professional wrestling, nothing could match the horrific final hours of Chris Benoit. According to police, the popular gladiator known as Rabid Wolverine subdued his wife, Nancy, 43, on the wooden floor of their home office in suburban Atlanta June 22, tied her wrists and feet together, wrapped her in a blanket and strangled her with a cord. Hours later he strangled their 7-year-old son, Daniel, face-down on the boy's bed.

At some point Benoit placed a Bible by each of the bodies. Then, according to authorities, he went to the basement exercise room, looped a cable from a weight machine around his neck and, with a nearly empty bottle of wine at his feet, dropped a stack of weights and strangled himself. "Bizarre," said Fayette County District Attorney Scott Ballard. "I don't think we'll ever be able to wrap our minds around this."

Which is one reason why, at press time, police were reluctant to give a motive. Ballard says steroids and other medications were found in Benoit's home, and talk of homicidal "roid

rage" (see box) spread across the Internet. But World Wrestling Entertainment, Benoit's employer, countered that in an independent drug test April 10, "Benoit tested negative."

Court papers suggest that Benoit, ferocious in the ring, could also be violent at home. Nancy Benoit, who was Chris's manager, filed for divorce in May 2003 and requested a restraining order against her husband. She said that he had threatened her and had broken furniture in their home. But Stanley W. Levitt, an Atlanta attorney who represented the Montreal-born Benoit in the divorce action, notes that Nancy dropped her petition three months after filing. "Chris was very much in love with his wife, and they wanted to get back together," Levitt says. "The Chris that I knew was a kind, gentle and compassionate person."

Coming at the height of his career, his appalling death left his fans in a state of deep confusion. "He was definitely one of the more popular wrestlers in the company, both amongst the wrestlers themselves and with the fans," says Phil Lowe, editor of the wrestling Web site *Wrestlemag.com*. "He'd played both a good guy and a bad guy during his career but enjoyed more success as a good guy." Outside the ring "he was well respected by his peers and was very much a family guy." He was also, Lowe says, very good at his craft. "One of the best technical

wrestlers in the history of this industry, no doubt about it."

Benoit, 40, began his career as a teenager with Canadian wrestling star Stu Hart's Calgary-based enterprise Stampede Wrestling. Soon he was working in Japan, eventually making his way to promoter Vince McMahon's World Wrestling Federation (now the WWE). Real life and the fantasy of the wrestling ring collided in the late '90s, when Benoit (after another relationship that produced two children) met Nancy Sullivan, a wrestling manager who went by the name Woman. Her husband at the time, wrestler Kevin Sullivan, had concocted a storyline to entertain fans



Benoit holds aloft a championship belt at a match in Edmonton, Alta.





**A police car sits outside the Benoit home in Fayetteville, Ga., where neighbors said the family led a low-key lifestyle.**

that involved a rival—in this case, Benoit—stealing his wife. The act turned into an off-stage romance, and Nancy soon left her husband for Benoit.

After their son was born, Nancy was not as active in wrestling circles, fans say. Jimmy Baswell, Benoit's driver—who last talked to Chris June 17—says the wrestler adored his son. "When we were at their house, he would always let Daniel walk around with championship belts, running around and saying 'I beat my daddy and I'm the new champion of the world' . . . He carried that boy on a pedestal." Investigators found posters of Benoit on the walls of his son's bedroom. They also found nee-

dle marks on the boy's arm. Daniel was "somewhat significantly undersized," says Ballard. "Our thought is, somebody had been giving the boy growth hormones for some time, because these were not fresh needle marks." Benoit was scheduled to appear at weekend shows starting June 23 in Texas. Instead, friends and neighbors received a series of muddled text messages from Benoit: One indicated his wife and son were sick, D.A. Scott Ballard told PEOPLE. Another, about the family's pets needing attention, may have been written just before Benoit killed himself, possibly as a way of bringing someone to the scene. Neighbors are relieved, says Ballard, that no killer is at large. But the mystery of Benoit's final acts confounds both those who knew him and those who merely watched him on TV. "People tend to connect to the characters they see on TV and think they know who they are," says lifelong wrestling fan Shannon Scott, 23, of Radford, Va. "But we don't."

**Larry Sutton.** Reported by **Jeff Truesdell,**  
**Mary Green, Sean Scully** and **Elizabeth Cobb**

## COULD IT BE STEROIDS?

Athletes and bodybuilders who use anabolic steroids—synthetic testosterone that boosts production of muscle and red blood cells—are at risk for psychological side effects, including aggression and paranoid jealousy. Steroid users can also experience withdrawal symptoms, including depression. "These are relatively dangerous drugs," says Larry Bowers of the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency. (Other steroids with no such side effects are used in the treatment

of asthma, arthritis and other inflammation.) Were steroids a factor in the Benoit case? Fayette County D.A. Scott Ballard says prescription drugs and anabolic steroids—which are illegal unless prescribed by a doctor—were found at the family's house, but only toxicology tests will detect whether Benoit had them in his system.

Until then there is only speculation. Dr. Clarke Holmes, Georgetown University director

of sports medicine, says not all steroid users suffer extreme side effects. "It's not dose-related; it's not linked to a specific kind of steroid," he says. And the elaborate details of Nancy's and Daniel's murder would make it an "unusual case" of steroid rage, says doping expert Dr. Gary Wadler of New York University, but "it is fair to say they may have played a part in what happened."

—Macon Morehouse



JULY 16, 2007

# People

**CHRIS  
BENOIT  
MURDER-  
SUICIDE**



Benoit and son Daniel

## FAMILY SECRETS

A son's health mystery,  
a rocky marriage, a  
looming drug scandal.  
Inside the wrestler's  
troubled world

**WILLIAM & KATE**  
**His Fight to  
Win Her Back**



**MELROSE  
PLACE**  
15 YEARS LATER  
WHERE ARE  
THEY NOW?



\$3.49US \$4.79CAN

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## FATHER AND SON

Chris and Daniel Benoit at a ceremony honoring the wrestler in 2004. "Daniel worshipped his dad," says a former neighbor.

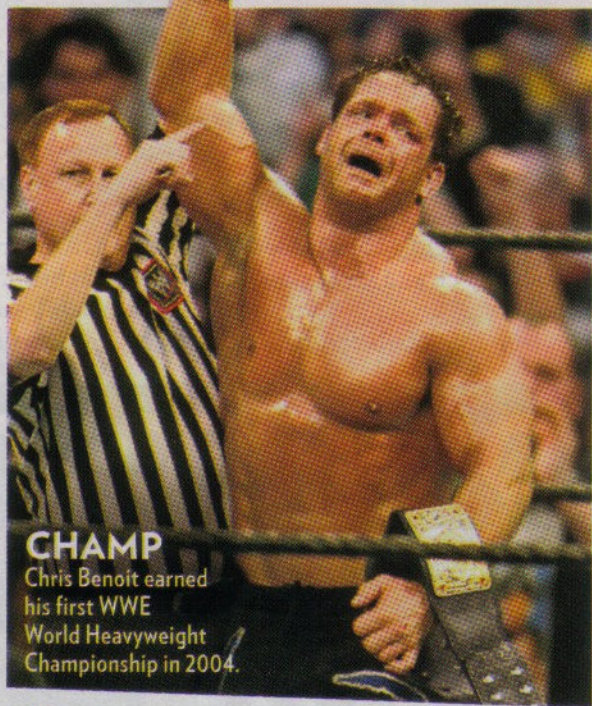


# CHRIS BENOIT'S **FINAL** DAYS

WHAT MADE THE WRESTLER  
SNAP? ANSWERS—AND  
MORE QUESTIONS—ABOUT  
THE BRUTAL MURDERS OF HIS  
WIFE AND YOUNG SON

**B**ackstage at the Philips Arena in Atlanta last April 29, wrestler Brad Armstrong caught up with his old friend Chris Benoit, who minutes before had successfully defended his championship title at the WWE Backlash event. “I hate to bug you, but after you get showered and cool down, if you have a minute, the kids would love to meet you,” said Armstrong, referring to his 6-year-old daughter and her pals. No problem, answered Benoit. “I’ll stay dressed and show them my championship belt.” When the kids trooped in, Benoit knelt down to get face-to-face with a little boy named Ben. “Hey, buddy, how old are you?” he asked. Seven, came the reply. “I have a son who’s 7 also,” Benoit said, putting his giant belt on the child and posing for a picture.

Could that possibly be the same Chris Benoit who police in Georgia say is behind the stunning double murder and suicide that claimed the lives of his wife, Nancy, and son Daniel? Fayette County investigators released new details of the crime scene to PEOPLE on



**CHAMP**  
Chris Benoit earned his first WWE World Heavyweight Championship in 2004.



**MEMORIALS**  
Fans left flowers and sympathy notes outside Benoit's Fayetteville, Ga., home.



July 2: Daniel, with what were described as old needle marks on his arm, was found in his bed in his pajamas with his stomach down and head turned to the side; he suffered internal damage to the throat but no sign of trauma around his neck. "By the process of elimination, I arrive at a choke hold [as the cause of death], says District Attorney Scott Ballard, "but that's just a supposition." Benoit him-

crimes, about which Benoit, 40, left no suicide note or other explanation, has only intensified. Did Daniel, 7, secretly suffer from a serious medical condition—or was the idea that his health caused a family crisis merely an attempt by Benoit's employers at WWE to deflect attention away from the world of professional wrestling? Was the wrestler in the grips of a steroid-induced rage—or did his meticulous

under way, of the contents of a safe-deposit box rented by a member of the family), District Attorney Ballard says, "None of it makes any sense. Nobody's ever going to give me a reason that satisfies me for killing that boy."

One early clue proved to be a false start: a contributor to the Wikipedia Web site posted a mention of Nancy's death a full 14 hours before her body had been discovered by police. But the writer, who chose to remain anonymous, later apologized, saying he was repeating an idle rumor that, by a "huge coincidence," turned out to be true. Questions about Daniel's health remain central to the mystery. Two days after the bodies were discovered, the WWE suggested through its attorney that Benoit's son Daniel may have suffered from a medical condition known as Fragile X syndrome, a form of retardation often accompanied by autism. The DA originally speculated that the boy was undersized and that the needle marks were perhaps the result of injections of growth hormone. But the child's maternal grandparents, speaking through their lawyer, said Daniel "was a normal child with no health problems

**“We have reason to believe the situation with Daniel was a source of tension in the relationship between Chris and Nancy” —WWE ATTORNEY JERRY McDEVITT**

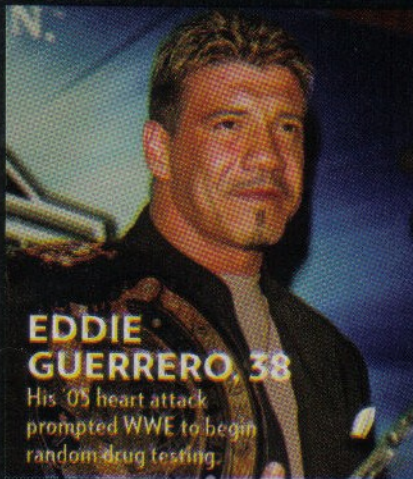
self, shirtless on the floor of a mirrored basement exercise room, had wrapped a torn white cloth around his neck at the end of his three-day rampage June 24 before looping a cable from a weight machine around his neck and releasing a 240-lb. stack of weights. "The cable pulled up on his neck and strangled him," says Ballard.

But the search for a motive behind the

execution of the crimes suggest otherwise? And why would a loving husband and dad, described by numerous friends and relatives as kind, modest and quiet, destroy his own family? "I've never heard Chris say a cross word to anybody," recalls Armstrong. "The aggression was what he put on between the bells" of a match. Pending the results of toxicology reports (and a review, now

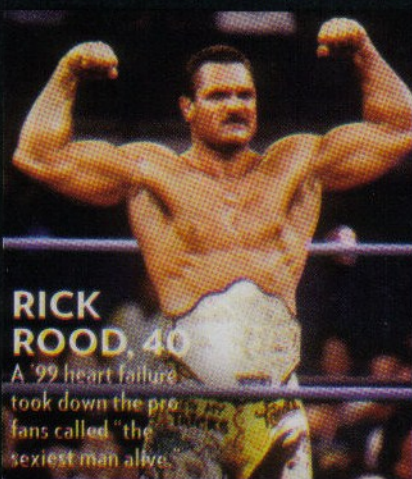
# DOWN FOR THE COUNT

DEATHS OF WRESTLERS BEFORE THEIR TIME HAVE PLAGUED THE SPORT



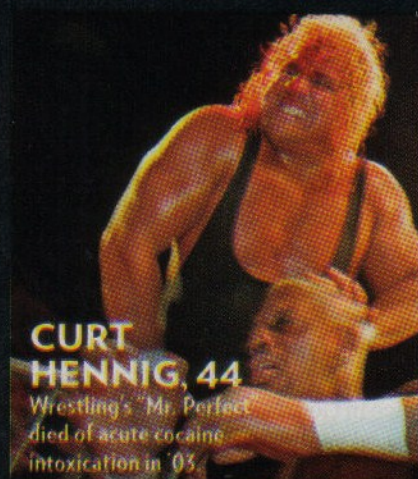
**EDDIE GUERRERO, 38**

His '05 heart attack prompted WWE to begin random drug testing.



**RICK ROOD, 40**

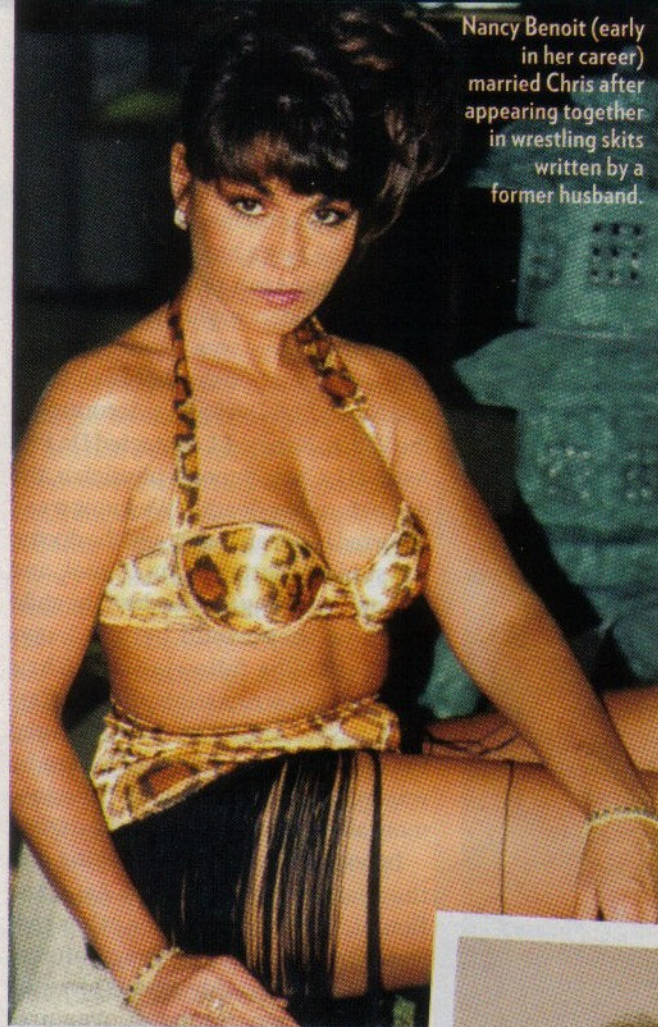
A '99 heart failure took down the profans called "the sexiest man alive."



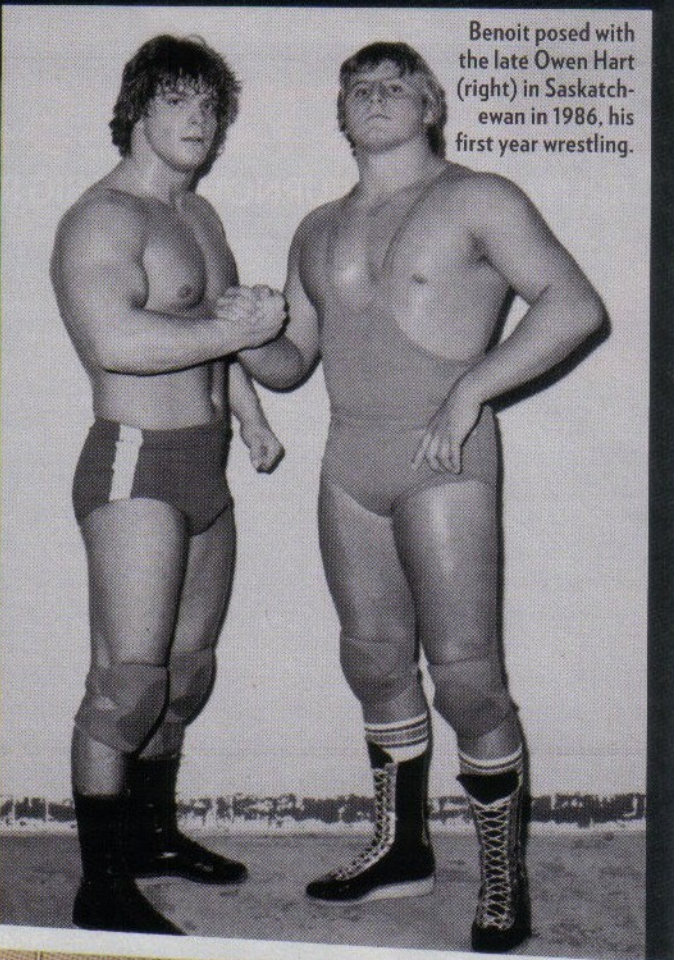
**CURT HENNIG, 44**

Wrestling's "Mr. Perfect" died of acute cocaine intoxication in '03.





Nancy Benoit (early in her career) married Chris after appearing together in wrestling skits written by a former husband.



Benoit posed with the late Owen Hart (right) in Saskatchewan in 1986, his first year wrestling.

have wrestled against 25 wrestlers who are no longer with us," says Marc Mero, who faced Chris Benoit in the ring many times in the 1990s.

Drugs (steroids for bulking up, painkillers prescribed for injuries), car accidents, heart attacks and suicide have taken a devastating toll. Chris Benoit's own circle of colleagues was particularly hard hit. Six of the "dungeon boys" who started with him in the basement gym of trainer Stu Hart in Calgary, Alta., died early deaths in recent years. Now with the Benoit double murder and suicide, a deeper shadow hangs over their world. "We've had lots of guys die, but nothing like this," says wrestler Dean Malenko.



Nancy Benoit tends to Chris's wounds following a match ca. 1996.



# A WRESTLER'S LIFE

## BRUTAL HOURS, BURNOUT, BUT BIG REWARDS

### Life on the road as a

**wrestler** is not for the weak of body—or heart. “You’re in a different town every day,” says Gary Sabaugh, a slammer who spent 16 years on the road as the Italian Stallion. “You miss the real life, you get lonely.” Adds Dean Malenko, known as the Man of 1,000 Holds during his days in the ring: “We miss birthdays. Christmas plays. . . . It’s hard to have friends.”

Pro wrestlers can spend around 300 days a year on the road, working in a stiffly competitive environment. While the financial payoff can be great—stars earn anywhere from \$300,000 to \$5 million a year, say experts—the burnout factor is high, with many thinking of retirement by age 40.

“There are 10 to 15 guys waiting [in the wings],” says Robert Rechsteiner, who worked the circuit for more than 15 years. “If there is one thing they can do better than you, they will manipulate it in order to take your spot. If you are over 35, you start looking for another career.”

One with better benefits. Most wrestlers, notes Greg Oliver, the founder of SLAM! Wrestling, a Canadian Web site, “don’t have a health plan or a retirement plan—they have to go out and get their own insurance.” The WWE confirms the lack of benefits, although it does cover medical treatment for injuries sustained in the ring. So why do it? “It’s truly passion,” says WWE wrestler Matt Kaye, 33. “We define the term ‘labor of love.’”

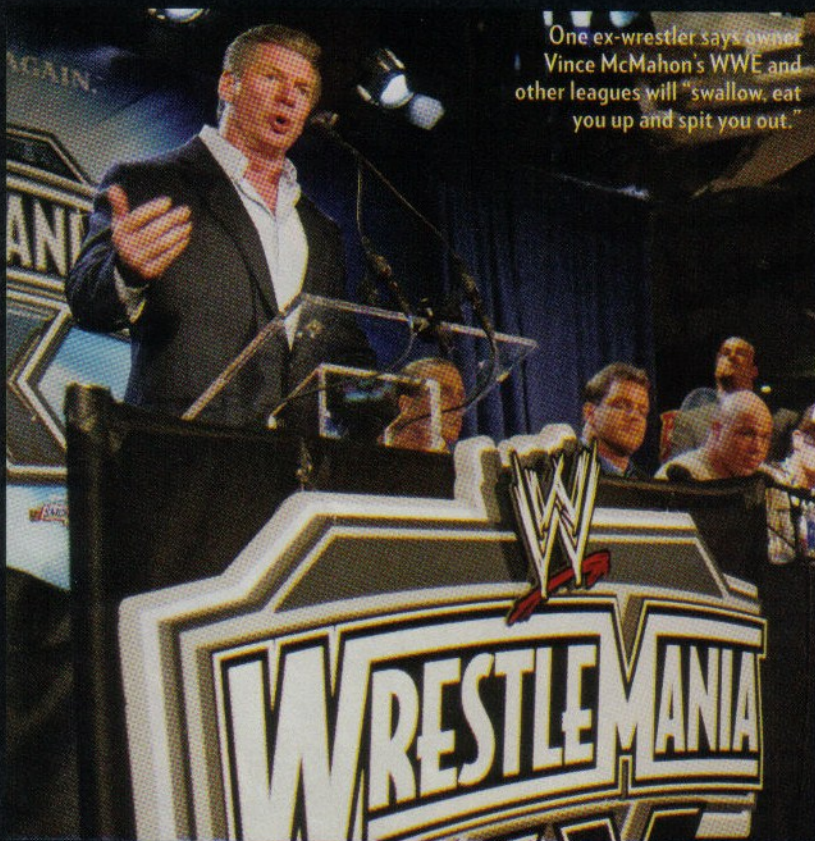
One ex-wrestler says owner Vince McMahon’s WWE and other leagues will “swallow, eat you up and spit you out.”

that they could discern,” and investigators subsequently said the boy’s medical records showed no evidence of any serious illness.

Still, the pro-wrestling organization, through its attorney Jerry McDevitt, insists the boy’s health was an issue. “We have reason to believe, and we think the evidence will show, the situation with Daniel was a source of tension in the relationship between Chris and Nancy,” McDevitt says. According to the WWE, Nancy, 43, contacted Dr. Phil Astin III, Chris Benoit’s physician, the day before her death. “We know a call occurred between Nancy and the doctor, the subject matter being Daniel, and Nancy discussing the needs of the child and how they would be met,” says McDevitt. The following day, Chris drove 42 miles to Astin’s office in Carrollton, says McDevitt. “He discussed the child and the family situation he was in,” McDevitt would not disclose more about the supposed medical crisis.

Investigators were also looking into the relationship between Dr. Astin and Benoit, but apparently for other reasons. On July 2 federal Drug Enforcement Administration agents arrested Astin on seven counts of over-prescribing pain and anxiety medication. (Astin has pleaded not guilty.) Although none of the charges related to Benoit, a search warrant obtained earlier by police to search his office specified the doctor had prescribed “on average, a 10-month supply of anabolic steroids to Mr. Benoit every three to four weeks from May 4, 2006 through May 9, 2007.” Steroids were found in the wrestler’s house on the day the deaths were discovered, according to police. (Through his lawyer Manny Arora, Astin denies prescribing steroids to Benoit.)

Friends searching for clues have also focused on Benoit’s relationship with his wife, who, before the birth of their child, performed under the name Woman. Years before their 2000 marriage, Nancy was charged with aggravated battery after, according to her then husband, wrestler Kevin Sullivan, she came after him with a knife.





She admitted holding the knife, but the charge from the 1997 episode was eventually dropped. Although she filed for divorce from Benoit in 2003, saying he had threatened her, the couple then reconciled.

Nancy Benoit, like many wrestling wives, complained to friends that her husband's constant touring had turned her into a single mother for much of the year. She assembled and sold gift baskets to earn pin money. "They had a big house, and an entire room was devoted to crafts and making things," says Richard Decker, an Atlanta attorney who represents Nancy's parents, Paul and Maureen Toffoloni. "That was the kind of thing that she and Daniel liked to do together." Former neighbor Melissa Coppage recalls asking Nancy recently if she had any vacation plans. "She said, 'No, it's all wrestling, all the time. The schedule doesn't stop for summer or vacations or holidays.'"

But several of Benoit's friends describe him as a devoted father and husband. Apparently at Nancy's request, Benoit took a four-month leave from work last year to be with his wife while she recovered from surgery. "He wasn't a monster," says friend and former wrestler Dean Malenko. "We're talking about a guy who, a month ago, was in Jacksonville and rather than drive down to Orlando, where he needed to be the next day, he took a flight to be home with Daniel."

If anything changed Benoit in recent years, friends say, it was the death of fellow wrestler Eddie Guerrero in 2005. "His best friend in the business," says Bryan Alvarez, founder of the wrestling site FigureFourOnline.com. "I talked to him a lot after the death, and he was a broken man." Greg Oliver, founder of SLAM! Wrestling, a sports Web site in Toronto, shares an e-mail Benoit sent him after Guerrero's



Benoit and his son Daniel trick-or-treating in Peachtree City, Ga., on Halloween, 2005.

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“The answers that everybody wants, we may never have” — D.A. SCOTT BALLARD

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death that says in part: "My wife Nancy bought me a diary, and I have started to write letters to Eddie. It may sound crazy, but that is how I'm coping."

The first indication that something might be seriously wrong in the wrestler's life came when he missed a June 23 match in Texas. Speaking to a WWE staffer by phone, he apologized for oversleeping, adding, oddly, "I love you." In a series of calls that afternoon, accord-

ing to the WWE, Benoit described a family emergency, being at a hospital, and his wife and son vomiting blood because of food poisoning. His final communication was an enigmatic text message he sent to a co-worker at 3:58 the next morning: "My address is 130 Green Meadow Lane, Fayetteville Georgia. 30215." By then, investigators believe, his wife and child were dead—and Benoit was perhaps minutes away from ending his own life.